ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION

AGENDA -- SIXTY-SECOND MEETING

Field Museum of Natural History
Chicago, Illinois
10:00 a.m., February 25, 1977

* Documentary material herewith
\# Documentary material previously distributed

1) Call to order and roll call

Possible attendants:

Dr. Dale E. Birkenholz
Warren DeWalt
Dr. John Ebinger
Dr. James Fralish
Gordon Graves
Dr. Alan Haney
Dr. Stanley Harris
Frederick Kalivoda
Dr. Peter Schramm

Dr. David Kenney
Dr. George Sprugel
Edmund B. Thornton

George B. Fell
Max Hutchison
Gerald Paulson
Peter Reilly
Richard Thom

John Schwegman
Marlin Bowles
Robert Schanzle
Andy West
Charles Tamminga

John Bacone
Neil Gaston
Kathryn Kerr
Dr. Alfred Koelling
Dr. Kenneth Robertson
John White
April Young

Steve Apfelbaum
Mrs. Dale Birkenholz
Mrs. Gordon Graves
Mrs. Frederick Kalivoda
Mary Lou Marzuki
Dr. Jon Mendelson

2) Adoption of agenda

\# 3) Approval of 61st meeting minutes

* 4) Financial report

* 5) General report of INPC staff

6) General report of Conservation Department staff

7) Report of Natural Areas Inventory staff

8) Special reports

A) Rare & endangered species study

The Natural Land Institute is seeking funds to undertake further study of species on the Commission's interim lists of rare and endangered vascular plants and vertebrate animals of Illinois.

REPORT
Reilly

B) Photo station policy

A second draft of the Nature Preserves Permanent Photographic Station Policy has been completed.

REPORT
Bowles

ACTION
To be considered

C) Proposed infrared aerial photography program

REPORT
Bowles

IDOC has handbooks on techniques

D) Proposed prairie burning program

REPORT
Schanzle

E) Effects of severe winter

REPORT
Graves

F) Procedures for securing preservation of natural areas

REPORT
Schwegman & Fell

may 6,7
Dixon Springs

9) Future meeting arrangements

Scheduling of time and place of meetings for 1977 has been proposed.

10) Election of consultants

The Rules of Order and Procedure state that consultants shall be elected to serve one year.

The following persons were elected as consultants at the 58th meeting on March 5, 1976: Dr. Robert Betz, Dr. Margery C. Carlson, Dr. Robert Evers, Dr. S. Charles Kendeigh and Edmund B. Thornton.

11) Budget, FY78

REPORT
Tamminga

12) Biennial Report, 1975-1976

The biennial report of the Commission is due May 1, 1977.

PROGRESS REPORT
Fell & Thom

ACTION
To be considered

13) Classification of nature preserves

#* 14) Proposed legislation

PROGRESS REPORT
Fell

ACTION
To be considered

AREAS

* 15) Bureau Co. -- Myer Woods (20 acres)

The Princeton Park District is considering dedication of the area as a nature preserve.

REPORT
Thom

ACTION
Preliminary approval of dedication

16) Lake Co. -- Lake Forest Open Lands Area (Shaw Prairie & Woodland) (50 acres)
Prior action: Dedication of suitable portions approved in principle 60-11 (R410)

The Lake Forest Open Lands Association and The Nature Conservancy are willing to dedicate the area.

REPORT
Paulson

ACTION
Preliminary approval of dedication

17) Lake Co. -- Wauconda Bog Nature Preserve (67 acres), conveyance

Possible conveyance of Wauconda Bog Nature Preserve to the Lake County Forest Preserve District in exchange for other land.

REPORT
Schwegman

* 18) LaSalle Co. -- Starved Rock Nature Preserve, archery range
Prior action: Reaffirmed position that the portion of Starved Rock Nature Preserve occupied by an archery range is worthy of nature preserve status and that the Department of Conservation should terminate its use as an archery range 49-19 (R312), 10/3/73

The Department of Conservation has removed the archery range and properties of the Illini Field Archers from the nature preserve.

The Illini Field Archers have requested that they be allowed to discuss the archery range with the Commission. A delegation will attend the meeting.

ACTION
To be considered

* 19) Rock Island Co. -- Oak Valley Eagle Sanctuary, dedication

The National Wildlife Federation is purchasing this area and has proposed to dedicate it as a nature preserve. The Department of Conservation has indicated a willingness to assume management of the area.

REPORT
Thom

ACTION
Approval in principle

* 20) Warren Co. -- Spring Grove Cemetery (1 acre), dedication

Monmouth College is in charge of the cemetery and the Biology Department is interested in dedicating it.

REPORT
Thom

ACTION
Preliminary approval of dedication

* 21) Will Co. -- Thorn Creek Woods, dedication

Prior action: Dedication of natural portions approved in principle; state acquisition of 267 acres in private ownership recommended; staff directed to prepare report for House of Representatives; officers & staff directed to review report 37-15 (R185)

REPORT
Paulson

mary Lou Marzoki
Jon Mendelson

ACTION
Recommend dedication

22) Winnebago Co. -- Harlem Hills Nature Preserve (52 acres), Windsor Road extension

The Winnebago County Superintendent of Highways and the Loves Park Planning Commission have proposed 3 alternate routes for the Windsor Road extension.

REPORT
Fell

ACTION
To be considered

23) Other areas

24) Other business

25) Adjournment

July, 1976
Revised February, 1977

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ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION

FINANCIAL REPORT
July 1, 1976 - January 31, 1977

Expenses incurred on behalf of INPC by members & Natural Land Institute

Travel, Commission members		$ 822.30
Contractual services, Natural Land Institute		
Personal services	$27,376.71	
Employee benefits	4,106.51	
Unemployment compensation liability	51.30	
Insurance	100.92	
Travel, personnel	2,377.42	
Rent, utilities & maintenance	1,736.00	
Rental, office equipment	595.00	
Telephone	1,278.75	
Postage	466.32	
Office supplies	156.75	
Field supplies	133.69	
Books, maps, photos	242.61	
Duplicating & paper	340.56	
Meeting expense	204.37	
Miscellaneous	7.00	
		39,173.91
		$39,996.21

Cash disbursements from General Revenue Fund appropriation

Administration, including protection of areas		
Travel, Commission members	$ 822.30	
Contract Project 1	22,375.90	
Biennial report		
Contract Project 2	205.71	
Preservation, including acquisition and dedication		
Contract Project 3	11,393.59	
Rare & endangered species		
Contract Project 4	2,893.44	
Management		
Contract Project 5	2,226.18	
		$39,917.12
Difference between expenses incurred and amount reimbursed		$ 79.09

7-month apportionment from appropriation	$41,475.00
Amount disbursed	39,917.12
Surplus for period	$ 1,557.88

ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION

SIXTY-SECOND MEETING

STAFF REPORT

* A) Staff activities

December and January

* B) Directory of members, advisors, consultants & staff

Revised directory has been issued

C) Meetings attended by staff

11/30 Corps of Engineers public hearing on watershed study, O'Fallon (Hutchison)
1/26 Department of Transportation Environmental Advisory Board meeting, Carbondale (Hutchison)
1/21 Annual meeting of the Illinois Chapter, The Wildlife Society, Carbondale (Thom)
1/28 Department of Conservation Region 5 meeting to discuss Big Creek Preservation, Benton (Hutchison)
2/17,18 Illinois Technical Foresters meeting, Springfield (Thom)

D) Status of dedications

Colored Sands Bluff Nature Preserve, Winnebago County (44 acres) has been approved by the Department and the Governor.

E) New advisors

Dr. David Kenney is the new Director of the Department of Conservation.
Dr. Milton Thompson has retired as Director of the Illinois State Museum.
Dr. Bruce McMillan is the new Director.

F) Nature preserve annual reports

Annual reports for 1976 have been received from most of the nature preserve custodians.

G) Special use permits granted

Roger C. Anderson & Lauren E. Brown--document changes in species composition and community structure associated with fire frequency and cessation of agricultural activities, Sand Prairie-Scrub Oak Nature Preserve, Mason County.

Chris T. Maier--determine the syrphid species present in the State, their distribution and periods of adult activity, Volo Bog Nature Preserve, Lake County.

Shelley Rogers--locate and map the beaver dams on the Cache River for hydrological changes, Heron Pond Nature Preserve, Johnson County.

Larry M. Page--collect specimens of fish, crayfish, amphipods and isopods, all nature preserves.

Ronald A. Brandon--collect dusky salamander, Chestnut Hills Nature Preserve, Pulaski County.

James R. Rastorfer--determine invasion and establishment success of bryophte taxa, Goose Lake Prairie Nature Preserve, Grundy County.

Permit pending: John Alesandrini--collect specimens of mice, shrews and voles, Forest Park Nature Preserve, Peoria, County.

H) Illinois Environmental Council annual meeting

The annual meeting of the Illinois Environmental Council will be held on February 26, 1977 at Millikin University, Decatur. A workshop on natural area preservation is planned for the morning session with Dr. Dale E. Birkenholz, Jerry Paulson, Neil Gaston, and John Schwegman serving on the panel.

AREAS

* I) Vermilion Co.--Middle Fork of the Vermilion River

A letter has been sent to the Governor and the Division of Water Resources notifying them of the Commission's actions on the Middle Fork.

J) Will Co.--Frankfort Cemetery (approx. 1 acre)

The Frankfort Cemetery Association is considering dedication of this mesic black soil prairie as a nature preserve. Dr. William Zales, Joliet Junior College, and Dr. Robert Betz have taken over the management responsibilities for the prairie portion of the cemetery. The area was identified by the Natural Areas Inventory staff.

ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION

Summary of Staff Activities
December 1, 1976 - December 31, 1976

PROJECT 1. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION & PROTECTION OF AREAS

General Administration:

Provided general administrative service, public information, liaison with Nature Preserves Commission members and Department of Conservation staff.

Prepared agenda materials for 61st INPC meeting, attended meeting, followed up on matters on which action was taken at meeting, drafted 61st INPC minutes. Made arrangements for 62nd INPC meeting.

Reviewed draft of proposed Illinois Forestry Plan and submitted comments.

Participated in planning for movies on natural rivers of Illinois and natural areas of Illinois.

Protection:

Aerial reconnaissance to monitor disturbances on the following tracts:

Lusk Creek, Pope Co.
Big Creek watershed, Hardin Co.
Silver Creek natural areas, St. Clair Co.
Buttonland Woods, Johnson Co.

Illinois Beach, Lake Co.-- discussed Zion marina with DOC personnel and others.

Harlem Hills Nature Preserve, Winnebago Co.-- discussed Windsor Road extension with City of Loves Park and County Highway Department.

Volo Bog Nature Preserve, Lake Co.-- responded to inquiry from Attorney General's office concerning proposed highway.

PROJECT 3. PRESERVATION, INCLUDING ACQUISITION AND DEDICATION

Worked on plans for preservation of natural areas. Discussed methods of landowner contact with Natural Areas Section. Drafted legislation for natural areas registry.

Promoted preservation of the following areas:

Oak Valley Eagle Sanctuary, Rock Island Co.
Savanna Army Depot tract, Jo Daviess Co.
Fairchild Cemetery, Vermilion Co.
Gallatin County natural areas
Cave Creek Hill prairie, Johnson Co.
Sielbeck tract, Massac Co.
Werner tract, Pope Co.
Lindroth tract, Ogle Co.
Bremer tract, Montgomery Co.
12-Mile Prairie, Fayette & Marion Co's.

Negotiated for dedication of the following areas:

Middle Fork of the Vermilion River, Vermilion Co.
Frankfort Cemetery, Will Co.
Lockport Prairie, Will Co.
Thorn Creek Woods, Will Co.
Olin tract, Madison Co.
Robeson Hills Nature Preserve addition, Lawrence Co.

PROJECT 4. RARE & ENDANGERED SPECIES

Prepared outline for rare and endangered species program. Continued planning for rare and endangered species inventory studies.

PROJECT 5. MANAGEMENT

Completed first draft of a manual on prairie management.

Continued work on master plan for Severson Dells Forest Preserve, Winnebago Co.

Approved brush cutting on Sand Ridge Nature Preserve, Cook Co.

Inspected Heron Pond-Wildcat Bluff Nature Preserve, Johnson Co.

ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION

Summary of Staff Activities
January 1, 1977- January 31, 1977

PROJECT 1. GENERAL INFORMATION & PROTECTION OF AREAS

General administration:

Provided general administrative service, public information, liaison with Nature Preserves Commission members, Department of Conservation staff and other State agencies.

Attended annual meeting of Illinois Chapter of the Wildlife Society, in Carbondale.

Worked on comments on Forestry Plan for Illinois Technical Foresters meeting.

Protection:

Rocky Glen, Peoria County--Conferred with DOT on proposed supplemental freeway. Big Creek, Hardin County--continued efforts to preserve, wrote newspaper article, corresponded with Army Corps of Engineers, attended meeting with DOC southern region staff.

Attended DOT Environmental Advisory Board meeting concerning Great River Road route in southern Illinois.

Met with staff of Shawnee National Forest concerning natural area protection & management on the Shawnee National Forest.

PROJECT 2. BIENNIAL REPORT

Commenced planning for Biennial Report; conferred with DOC and NAI staff.

PROJECT 3. PRESERVATION, INCLUDING ACQUISITION & DEDICATION

Promoted preservation of the following areas:

Rock Island Eagle Roost, Rock Island County
Blair Estate, Lake County
St. Charles Woods, Kane County
Werner tract, Pope County
Savanna Army Depot, Jo Daviess County

Negotiated for dedication of the following areas:

Rocky Branch, Clark County
Olin tract, Madison County
Tomlinson Cemetery, Champaign County
Clyde Cemetery, Whiteside County
Hetzler Cemetery, Bureau County
Sandytown Cemetery, Whiteside County
Selby Township Woods (Meyer Woods), Bureau County
St. Mary's Cemetery, Peoria County
Spring Grove Cemetery Prairie, Warren County
Frankfort Cemetery, Will County

Conferences with Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, Lake County Forest Preserve District and Department of Conservation on natural areas in northeastern Illinois.

Developed recommendations for nature preserve boundaries for Thorn Creek Woods, Will County.

Recorded dedication of Colored Sands Bluff, Winnebago County.

Liaison with DOC on natural area acquisition.

Continued work on drafting natural area legislation.

PROJECT 4. RARE & ENDANGERED SPECIES

Continued work on planning rare and endangered species program, including discussions with Department of Conservation, Natural Areas Inventory and Illinois Natural History Survey, and several members of the Endangered Species Protection Board.

PROJECT 5. MANAGEMENT

Drafted prairie management booklet.

Attended Severson Dells Forest Preserve management meetings.

Discussed management problems with custodian of Big Creek Woods, Richland County.

Discussed management plan for Colored Sands Bluff Nature Preserve with Winnebago County Forest Preserve District.

Aided in study of beavers and drainage changes at Heron Pond (Little Black Slough), Johnson County.

Mailed annual report forms to custodians of non-departmental nature preserves.

Revised master plan outline.

5-I

Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

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February 1, 1977

Governor James Thompson
State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Governor Thompson:

The Nature Preserves Commission was pleased that during your campaign you expressed opposition to construction of the Middle Fork Reservoir.

Because of the natural attributes of the Middle Fork valley, the Commission, on March 5, 1976, went on record in opposition to the reservoir and in favor of a stream corridor park that would protect the river and adjoining natural areas, archaeological sites, and habitats of rare species.

We note that you have given some thought to future use and disposition of the Middle Fork lands held by the Division of Water Resources, assuming the reservoir will not be built. We wish you to know of our concern that these lands be put to the best possible use.

We feel that two of the areas in State ownership, Windfall Prairie and Horseshoe Bottom, should be dedicated as State nature preserves and that the river itself and associated natural and archaeological areas, together with necessary buffer areas, should be retained in public ownership and permanently preserved.

If disposal of some areas is to be undertaken, we hope that this can be based on a comprehensive analysis of use capabilities that would compare agricultural, developmental, recreational, and preservation values of each part of the area. We would be pleased to participate in making such an analysis.

Sincerely,

George B. Fell

George B. Fell
Executive Secretary

Encl.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section - Marlin Bowles
December, 1976

NATURE PRESERVE PERMANENT PHOTOGRAPHIC STATION POLICY

Introduction

The objective of this report is to establish useable guidelines for the location, filming, processing, and storage of photographs intended for archival, or permanent use. Because of the inherent problems in testing the lasting quality of photographs and negatives, and because the science of photography is still developing, exact guidelines cannot always be given. Additional problems include the availability of required chemicals and finding a cooperative photo lab. Specific recommendations are given for photographic procedure and storage, however, ideal archival processing for black and white film may not be readily obtainable under normal laboratory conditions. As a result, ideal and secondary processing guidelines are given. Edwal Information Bulletins: Tests for Print and Film Permanence and Edwal "Four and One" Super Hypo Eliminator; Kodak technical service bulletins E-30 and J-19, and service pamphlet: Storage and Care of Kodak Films in Rolls were used as a source for technical information. It is recommended that these bulletins be read and used in conjunction with this policy since much of the basic technical information is drawn from them.

Need for Photographic Stations

Available in publications or collections are a number of early 1900 photographs which illustrate natural areas as they existed at that time. Examples include photographs of the "Waukegan Moorlands" (now presumably the Illinois Beach Nature Preserve) from Pepoon's Flora of the Chicago Region, photographs of Henderson and Mason County sand areas (now possibly Department of Conservation properties) from Gleason's The Vegetation of the Inland Sand Deposits of Illinois, and classic early photographs of the Illinois Beach Nature Preserve obtained from the University of Chicago. Such illustrations are irreplaceable in providing an understanding of the aspect of these sites at a time when they may have more reliably represented natural conditions. They can be important factors in providing guidelines for the management and inventory of these and other similar areas since recent gross ecological changes can be identified.

Although extremely valuable as management and inventory tools, a common problem is that the exact location of these early photographs is often unknown, thus limiting their usefulness. Also, the photographs may be relatively poor in quality and cannot be easily reproduced since negatives are non existant. Thus, the need for permanent photographic stations and properly processed and stored photographs is illustrated.

To management agencies such as the Illinois Department of Conservation, permanent photographic stations in nature preserves can serve as important aids in monitoring long term vegetational changes. Although not a substitute for permanent quantitative sampling, photographic stations can help to illustrate such data and may eventually prove to be as significant in guiding the long term management of natural areas and the need for future research. In a system containing a large number of preserves, only a few may be subjected to permanent sampling. If future management information is to be provided on a system wide basis, permanent photographic stations may be the best available method. Photographic data can illustrate the character of a site, or the seasonal aspect of dominant or rare and endangered species; it can also illustrate the response of natural areas to management such as prescribed burning and may also eventually show the need for other management techniques.

Location of Photographic Stations

Permanent photographic stations should be located in order to best illustrate areas undergoing ecological change, or showing the potential for such change; and to best illustrate the dominant character of an area. Significant features within preserves such as hill prairies, springs, outcrops, stations for rare species, or sites having permanent sampling points could also be included.

Station sites should be located with permanent markers such as rust protected aluminum or steel pipes, conduit, or posts. Steel conduit is recommended due to its lasting quality and surface which retains writing. Once established in the field, stations should be accurately located on maps or aerial photographs with accompanying written directions and recorded azimuth, incline of lens axis, and height of camera for each photograph. Compass readings should be made several feet away from metal such as station markers or wire rimmed glasses since the reading would be affected.

Timing of Photographs

Since the seasonal aspects of natural areas are often quite different, photographs should generally be made when the dominant vegetation is both dormant and growing. Under forest conditions the presence and absence of canopy and shrub leaf vegetation should key the timing of photographs. Under prairie conditions, photographs should illustrate vegetative conditions before and after the dominant grasses have set seed and gained control of the aspect of the site. Prairie vegetation may be best illustrated during the growing season following a prescribed burn since growth and flowering of vegetation is at an optimum level. When rare plants are involved, they should be photographed when easily visible on film.

When both color and black and white film is used, exposures should be made on the same dates on the same or successive years. Subsequent photographs should be made on a periodic multiple year basis. Five to ten years is suggested initially; however, the rate of ecological change on a site may dictate the time period.

Photographic Procedure

In order to insure future standards, exposures should be made using a 35mm* camera equipped with a normal lens having a focal length between 50mm and 60mm, or a 35mm wide angle lens for situations such as forests where depth of field is critical and often limited by low light levels. In addition to site location, variables such as the point of focus, date, film type, shutter speed, and aperture should be recorded. In most cases, the long axis of the film frame should be kept horizontal with the horizon located at the top of the frame, or an easily identified object located in the frame center. If lighting conditions do not permit an adequate depth of field (the entire viewing area) and shutter speed (125th second or faster), a tripod should be used. The objective of the photograph and vegetative aspect should also be recorded. Camera height above the ground should be standardized at a distance such as five feet. Proper exposure is essential, backlighted subjects should be avoided, and difficult scenes carefully metered.

Film and Film Treatment

In order to meet the objective of permanence, film processing should be carried out so as to achieve a standard known as archival processing. The type of film used, treatment before and after exposure, and developing procedure all affect the archival quality of film.

Choice of films include color negative, black and white negative, and color transparencies. Black and white negatives are the only alternative having lasting quality well beyond 50 years. Color negatives make satisfactory prints only for periods up to five years unless kept under special refrigerated conditons, while Kodachrome color transparencies will have no significant dye fading for a period of about 50 years if kept under dry cool conditions. For more permanence, color negatives or transparencies may be separated into their three color

*Larger than 35mm format cameras such as the 6cm. by 6cm. (2¼" square) or view cameras would give larger negatives and sharper prints; however, their disadvantages seem to out number the advantages. The versitility, ease in field use, and almost universal present and expected future use of the 35mm format, plus the availability of accessories for film storage make this format desirable for use with a large number of photo stations.

component parts using color separation negatives on black and white film. Processing, however, is difficult and expensive and probably not worthwhile for a large volume of negatives. Under these conditions, for a project involving a large number of frequently visited photo stations, black and white film is recommended for archival use. Kodachrome transparency film is also recommended as a supplement.

The particular granular structure of the silver image in the negative determines the ease in developing for permanence. Fine grained black and white negative film (low ASA film speed) produces prints having fine detail; however, the film is difficult to process for permanence and tends to produce prints of low contrast. Films of coarse grain size (high ASA speed) are more easily processed and have better contrast but produce prints lacking fine detail when enlarged. A satisfactory negative film of intermediate grain is Kodak Plus-X (ASA 125) used with a K2 (yellow) filter (which affectively reduces the ASA to 64) to improve contrast and rendition of vegetation. Kodak Kodachrome 25 or 64 film is recommended as a color transparency film. Kodachrome 25 has finer grain and slightly better color rendition and contrast.

In order to retard chemical change before exposure, films should be kept under cool temperatures, perferably sealed in film cans under refrigerated conditions. Film cans should be allowed to reach outside temperatures before opening in order to prevent moisture condensation on the film. After exposure, film should be processed as soon as possible. If this is impossible, storage should be under cool conditions at a relative humidity of less than 60%. Film should be dried to a relative humidity of less than 60%, and sealed in film cans if a refrigerator must be used. Kodak pamphlet: Storage and Care of Kodak Films in Rolls should be consulted concerning care of films.

Film Processing

Processing of film is the key step in assuring permanence for black and white negatives. Archival processing is designed to remove as completely as possible the unwanted silver halides and processing chemicals - primarily fixing agents (hypo), from film and to prevent the formation of other silver compounds, all of which if left in photographic material will eventually cause the material to break down. Fine grained films tend to hold these chemicals more readily than coarse grained films.

At the time of writing, two archival processing techniques have been reviewed. Both use a hypo eliminating agent which is more affective than commonly used hypo clearing agent, a form of protective

solution, and various types of testing procedures for determining the amounts of residual unwanted chemicals in films and papers. Kodak procedures call for the use of Hypo Eliminator HE-1, and Gold Protective Solution GP-1, both are relatively expensive and difficult to use and maintain.

Edwal Scientific Corporation supplies a "Four and One" Super Hypo Eliminator which serves as a hypo eliminating agent and protective solution, this product is inexpensive and easy to use and is recommended. Kodak and Edwal archival procedures are similar and are outlined below.

Details for film processing for permanence are given in the attached Edwal and Kodak technical bulletins; with some exceptions, most photo labs use these steps. Processing should be carried out by a photo lab that can meet the general standardized processing criteria established by the manufacturer for the materials and chemicals in use. Critical processing steps that should be followed include:

1. Proper developing and fixing time.
2. Agitation during developing and fixing.
3. Use of fresh chemicals and proper temperatures.
4. Use of Edwal Hypo Eliminator or Kodak Hypo clearing agent. (Kodak indicates that their clearing agent is equal to a hypo eliminator for film but not print processing.
5. Proper washing techniques.

Additional steps outlined in the Edwal and Kodak Bulletins that cannot always be followed by labs but may improve film processing standards include:

1. Testing films for residual hypo with Kodak Hypo Estimator, or chemicals recommended by Edwal.
2. Testing films for silver with Kodak Residual Silver Test Solution ST-1, or chemicals recommended by Edwal.
3. Treatment of film with Permafilm, which toughens the negative and removes excess moisture.

If available, the tests can help assure archival processing. As a general rule, however, if proper processing steps are followed the tests are usually negative.

Processing of Kodachrome transparency film by Kodak meets standards required for permanence. Different Kodak laboratories may give slightly different results. The main laboratory at Rochester, New York may give better results, some sources recommend the Ohio or California laboratories.

Prints and Print Processing

Color prints do not have lasting quality and should not be used as permanent indicators of photographic stations. Black and white prints can be processed for permanence and are recommended. Choice of print paper and processing techniques both affect the stability of the product. Five-by-seven inch prints are recommended as the best size for viewing detail and overall composition, and ease in storage. A minimum of two copies of each print is suggested, one for storage and one for viewing. Prints should not be dried with a textured surface which can detract from detail. Glossy surfaces usually show the best detail. It should be noted that by processing negatives for archival use, archival quality prints are not necessary since the negatives are a source for additional prints.

As in films the particular granular structure of a silver image determines the ease in developing for permanence. Very fine grained prints on warm toned papers are more difficult to process and also produce prints of poor viewing quality due to low contrast, and thus should be avoided. Coarse grained prints are easier to process but may have poor detail. Medium grained print paper having medium contrast is recommended. Single weight papers are more easily cleared of chemicals and are also suggested. Resic coated (RC) papers seem to provide an ideal processing, viewing and handling print paper; however, their long term lasting ability has not been tested. Among non resin coated papers, Kodak Medalist of medium contrast is suggested. Generally, it is easier to process all materials to a high standard of stability rather than to select a particular paper for special treatment.

Again, as in films, the objective is to remove all silver halides, processing chemicals, primarily fixing agent (hypo), and silver compounds from the print paper. A laboratory that can meet processing criteria established by the manufacturer for their papers should be used.

Important steps include:

1. Proper developing and fixing time.
2. Proper treatment of papers during fixing and washing.
3. Use of fresh chemicals and proper temperatures.
4. Use of a hypo clearing agent.
5. Proper washing techniques.

Additional steps outlined in the Kodak and Edwal Bulletins that should be followed if true archival processing is expected include:

1. Fixing of prints in a two bath system.
2. Use of Edwal or Kodak Hypo Eliminator as a hypo clearing agent.
3. Use of Kodak Gold Protective Solution GP-1 or Edwal "Four and One" as a protective coating on prints.
4. Testing papers for residual silver using Kodak or Edwal procedures.
5. Testing papers for residual hypo using Kodak or Edwal procedures.

The use of two bath fixing and a Kodak or Edwal Hypo Eliminator usually negates the need for testing procedures. Hypo Eliminator HE-1 and Gold Protective Solution GP-1 are usually not available as stock solutions; the individual chemicals must be obtained and mixed, and as a result, many photo labs may not be able to use the solutions. The use of HE-1, however, does insure complete clearing of prints. Edwal "Four and One" when used in different solutions serves as both a Hypo Eliminator and Protective Coating Solution and, thus, is much easier to use than Kodak chemicals.

Storage of Transparencies and Negatives

Storage of color film is outlined in detail in the attached Kodak Bulletin E-30, many of the recommendations also apply to black and white negative film. Of primary importance is protection from heat and humidity. Storage at temperatures above 21°c (70°F) can lead to chemical change of films, while storage at relative humidity above 60% lead to bacterial or fungal growth on film. Films should also be stored in the dark to prevent fading and should also be protected from fumes of hydrogen sulfide and coal gas which can lead to chemical change of film.

Black and white negatives and transparencies should be mounted in inert plastic or acid and sulfur free cardboard slide mounts which permit individual labeling and handling. Indelible pencil should be used for labeling since ink may fade or separate. Films should be free of dust and fingerprints before storage. Slide storage boxes which permit filing of individual slides should be used, this permits proper air circulation around the film. Boxes should be obtained which can be sealed against changes in humidity. An alternative is to store several boxes in larger air tight containers, or use climate controlled archives.

In order to insure proper storage humidity, films should be allowed to adjust to an air humidity of less than 60% for approximately 24 hours before sealing containers. The careful use of silica gel as

a drying agent is recommended if it does not draw the relative humidity below 15%, which causes films to become brittle and crack. Film containers should be stored in relatively dry rooms that do not reach temperatures above 21°C. Because of dampness and possible air leaks, basements and refrigerators should not be used.

Storage containers should be opened periodically to check for fungal growth and to replace silica gel which needs to be replaced or rejuvinated occasionally as recommended by the supplier.

Storage of Black and White Prints

Duplicate sets of prints are recommended. Prints intended for storage should be labeled with indelible pencil on reverse sides and stored in individual glassine film envelopes which can also be labeled. Storage conditions should be similar to those for films with temperatures below 21°C and relative humidity between 15% and 60%. Prints should be completely dry before storage or mounting and be allowed to adjust to the intended relative humidity before permanent storage. Containers that can be sealed against moisture should be used, and silical gel can be used as a drying supplement. Prints should be stored flat.

Prints intended for viewing probably should not be sealed in place because the sealing compound or mounting material could eventually break down and harm the prints.

If duplicate prints are kept, then mounting procedure using acid and sulfur free board, and a cold dry mount may be successful (see attached Edwal Bulletin concerning mounting).

References

1. Black and White Processing for Permanence, Kodak Bulletin J-19.
2. Storage and Care of Kodak Color Films, Kodak Bulletin E-30.
3. Storage and Care of Kodak Films in Rolls, Kodak Customer Service Pamphlet.
4. Edwal Information Bulletin: Tests for Print and Film Permanence.
5. Edwal Information Bulletin: Edwal "Four and One" Super Hypo Eliminator.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Location of Photographic Stations

1. This is site specific and should be determined as indicated in the text by a biologist familiar with the site.
2. Steel conduit is recommended for use as a station marker since it is rust resistant and retains labeling.

Timing of Photographs

1. This is site specific and again should be determined as indicated in the text by a biologist familiar with the site.

Photographic Procedures

1. Using the attached data form, record the indicated information.
2. Avoid high winds and heavy overcast sky conditions. Optimum weather conditions are slightly overcast but bright, or full sun at midday which keeps shadows at a minimum.
3. If proper exposure is difficult to determine, bracket the photograph with several exposures.
4. Use of a tripod will help to insure sharp negatives and is recommended for shutter speeds of less than 1/125th of a second.
5. Depth of field should cover the entire viewing area.
6. Use of a 35mm wide angle lens is recommended for photographing low light level situations where full depth of field is difficult to obtain.

Film and Film Treatment

1. Kodak Plus-X (ASA 125) with a K2 (yellow) filter (ASA reduced to 64) should be used as a negative film, Kodachrome 25 as a color transparency film.
2. Film treatment before and after exposure should be as indicated in the Kodak pamphlet: Storage and Care of Kodak Films in Rolls.

Film Processing

1. Processing should be through a cooperative photo lab that will follow the processing procedure given in the text.
2. The Edwal "Four and One" hypo eliminator is suggested as a hypo eliminating agent and protective solution.
3. Testing of films for residual hypo or silver should be performed if the service is available from the processor.

Print Processing

1. Resin coated (RC) paper is suggested as a print medium, a single-weight, non-glossy grade is recommended.
2. Print processing should follow the steps listed in the text. The Edwal "Four and One" hypo eliminator and protective solution is suggested for use.
3. Testing prints for residual hypo or silver should be performed if the service is available from the processor.

Storage of Transparencies and Negatives

1. Mount negatives and transparencies in individual plastic slide mounts.

2. Slide mounts should be labeled with a photographers indelible pencil.

3. Mounted slides and negatives should be stored in individual style slide storage boxes.

4. Storage should be at temperatures below 21°C and relative humidity below 60%, either through the use of sealed boxes and silica gel, or climate controlled archives.

Storage of Black and White Prints

1. Duplicate sets of prints, one for storage and one for reviewing should be made.

2. Prints should be labeled with an indelible photographers pencil and stored flat in individual glassine envelopes.

3. Storage should be at temperatures below 21°C and relative humidity below 60%, either through the use of sealed boxes and silica gel or climate controlled archives.

4. If duplicate prints are kept, then prints intended for viewing may be successfully mounted using a cold dry mount and acid and sulfur free board.

Sources for Materials

1. Plastic Slide Mounts: Solar Cine Products, Inc.
   4247 S. Kedzie Ave.
   Chicago, IL 60632

2. Silica Gel: Hunt Sales Company
   304 Wessling Circle
   Baltimore, Maryland 21228

3. Slide Storage Containers (non sealable): at most photographic stores.

4. Print Storage envelopes: at most photographic stores.

5. Photographers Indelible Pencil: at most photographic stores.

6. Edwal Chemicals: Edwal Scientific Products Corporation
   12120 S. Peoria Ave.
   Chicago, IL 60643

PERMANENT PHOTOGRAPHIC STATION DATA FORM

(attach to map)

Nature Preserve County

Station Number Exposure Number

Photographer Date Time

Camera Lens Filter

Film Aperature Shutter Speed

Point of Focus (From Lens) Angle of Lens Axis (From Horizontal)

Camera Height Azimuth

Weather (sky) Conditions

Location (Legal Description)

Location (Descriptional)

Photograph Objective

Vegetative Aspect (Dominant and Flowering Plants)

MEETINGS OF PUBLIC AGENCIES

AN ACT in relation to meetings. Approved July 11, 1957. L.1957, p. 2892.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

41. Public policy.] § 1. It is the public policy of this State that the public commissions, committees, boards and councils and the other public agencies in this State exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business. It is the intent of this Act that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly. As amended by act approved July 24, 1967. L.1967, p. 1960.

42. All official meetings open to the public—Exceptions.] § 2. All meetings of any legislative, executive, administrative or advisory bodies of the State, counties, townships, cities, villages, incorporated towns, school districts and all other municipal corporations, boards, bureaus, committees or commissions of this State, and any subsidiary bodies of any of the foregoing including but not limited to committees and subcommittees which are supported in whole or in part by tax revenue, or which expend tax revenue, shall be public meetings except for (a) collective negotiating matters between public employers and their employees or representatives, (b) deliberations for decisions of the Illinois Commerce Commission and the Illinois Parole and Pardon Board, (c) meetings where the acquisition of real property is being considered, or where a pending court proceeding against or on behalf of the particular governmental unit is being considered, but no other portion of such meetings may be closed to the public, (d) grand and petit jury sessions, (e) where the constitution provides that a governmental unit can hold secret meetings, and (f) meetings at public institutions of higher education relating to campus security or to the safety of staff and students. This Act does not apply to the General Assembly or to committees or commissions thereof.

This Section does not prevent any body covered by this Act from holding closed sessions to consider information regarding appointment, employment or dismissal of an employee or officer or to hear testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or officer to determine its validity, but no final action may be taken at a closed session. This Section does not prevent an agency of government from holding a closed session when Federal regulation requires it. This Section does not prevent a school board or any committee thereof from hearing student disciplinary cases or from discussing matters relating to individual students in special education programs as defined by Article 14 of The School Code [1] at a closed session. This Section does not prevent an advisory committee appointed to provide a public body with professional consultation on matters germane to its field of competence from holding a closed session to consider matters of professional ethics or performance. This Section does not prevent the corporate authorities of a municipality from enacting ordinances which provide for closed meetings for conciliating complaints of discrimination under Section 11–11.1–1 of the "Illinois Municipal Code", approved May 29, 1961, as amended.[2] This Section does not prohibit any body covered by this Act from holding closed sessions to consider the appointment of a member to fill a vacancy on that body, but no final action may be taken at a closed session.

Amended by P.A. 78–311, § 1, eff. Oct. 1, 1973.

[1] Chapter 122, § 14—1 et seq.
[2] Chapter 24, § 11–11.1–1.

42.01 Time and place—Holidays.] § 2.01. All meetings required by this Act to be public shall be held at specified times and places which are convenient to the public. No meeting required by this Act to be public shall be held on a legal holiday unless the regular meeting day falls on that holiday. Added by act approved July 24, 1967. L.1967, p. 1960.

42.02 Public notice.] § 2.02. Public notice of all meetings required by this Act to be public shall be given as follows:

(a) Every body subject to this Act shall give public notice of the schedule of regular meetings at the beginning of each calendar or fiscal year and shall state the regular dates, times, and places of such meetings. Public notice of any special meeting, or of any rescheduled regular meeting, or of any reconvened meeting, shall be given at least 24 hours before such meeting. However, this requirement of public notice of reconvened meetings does not apply to any case where the meeting is to be reconvened within 24 hours nor to any case where announcement of the time and place of the reconvened meeting was made at the original meeting and there is no change in the agenda.

(b) Public notice shall be given by posting a copy of the notice at the principal office of the body holding the meeting or, if no such office exists, at the building in which the meeting is to be held. The body shall supply copies of the notice of its regular meetings, and of the notice of any special, rescheduled or reconvened meeting, to any local newspaper of general circulation or any local radio or television station that has filed an annual request for such notice. Any such news media shall also be given the same notice of all special, rescheduled or reconvened meetings in the same manner as is given to members of the body provided such news medium has given the public body an address within the territorial jurisdiction of the public body at which such notice may be given. Added by act approved July 24, 1967. L.1967, p. 1960.

42.03 Schedule of meetings.] § 2.03. In addition to the notice required by Section 2.02,[1] each body subject to this Act must, at the beginning of each calendar or fiscal year, prepare and make available a schedule of all its regular meetings for such calendar or fiscal year, listing the times and places of such meetings.

If a change is made in regular meeting dates, at least 10 days' notice of such change shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the area in which such body functions. However, in the case of bodies of local governmental units with a population of less that 500 in which no newspaper is published, such 10 days' notice may be given by posting a notice of such change in at least 3 prominent places within the governmental unit. Notice of such change shall also be posted at the principal office of the public body or, if no such office exists, at the building in which the meeting is to be held. Notice of such change shall also be supplied to those news media

which have filed an annual request for notice as provided in paragraph (b) of Section 2.02. Added by act approved July 24, 1967. L.1967, p. 1960.

[1] Chapter 102, § 42.02.

42.04 Other notices—Failure to receive notice.] § 2.04. The notice requirements of this Act are in addition to, and not in substitution of, any other notice required by law. Failure of any news medium to receive a notice provided for by this Act shall not invalidate any meeting provided notice was in fact given in accordance with this Act. Added by act approved July 24, 1967. L. 1967, p. 1960.

43. Writ of mandamus.] § 3. Where the provisions of this Act are not complied with or where there is probable cause to believe that the provisions of this Act will not be complied with, the court shall issue a writ of mandamus requiring that a meeting be open to the public at large or issue such other appropriate order as will insure compliance with the provisions of this Act. As amended by act approved July 24, 1967. L.1967, p. 1960.

44. Violations of provisions of Act.] § 4. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor.
Amended by P.A. 77–2549, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1973.

45. Effect of invalid provisions or applications of act.] § 5. If any provision of this Act, or the application of this Act to any particular meeting or type of meeting is held invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions or the other applications of this Act.

ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION

REVIS. 2/9/71

PROPOSED FY78 BUDGET

	With Exec.Secr. @2/3 time, no Staff Asst. & no Field Repr. #3		With Exec.Secr. @2/3 time, no Staff Asst. & Field Repr.#3 @¼ yr.		With Exec.Secr. @ 2/3 time & no Staff Asst.		With proposed full staff	
Travel, Commission memb.		$ 1,900		$ 1,900		$ 1,900		$ 1,900
Personal services								
Exec. Secr. (3/1/70,20-7)*	$14,592		$14,592		$14,592		$21,888	
Staff Asst. (13-1)							10,668	
Field Repr.#1 (3/2/71,16-7)	15,576		15,576		15,576		15,576	
" " #2 (11/20/70,16-7)	12,744		12,744		12,744		12,744	
" " #3 (10/30/75,16-2)			3,342		13,368		13,368	
Secretary (1/22/62,9-4)	9,900		9,900		9,900		9,900	
		52,812		56,154		66,180		84,100
Benefits (@15%)		7,922		8,423		9,927		12,600
Unemployment comp.		501		541		630		800
Workmen's comp.		188		200		236		300
Travel, staff		3,000		3,300		4,200		4,900
Other								
Rent & utilities	2,600		2,600		2,600		2,600	
Equipment use	1,300		1,300		1,300		1,300	
Financing	304		334		401		500	
Telecommunications	1,800		1,950		2,400		3,000	
Postage	540		585		720		900	
Office supplies	200		225		250		300	
Field supplies	357		393		500		500	
Books, maps, photos	505		530		580		600	
Duplicating & paper	1,600		1,650		1,800		2,000	
Meeting facilities	600		600		600		600	
		9,806		10,167		11,151		12,300
Total		$76,129		$80,685		$94,224		$116,900
Budget levels, as proposed		$71,100		$78,100		$93,700		$116,900
Shortage compared with expenses that would be generated by indicated staffing		5,029		2,585		524		-0-
Total		$76,129		$80,685		$94,224		$116,900

* Date of employment, grade & step

INPC 62
Item 11

David Kenney
DIRECTOR

Illinois Department of Conservation
life and land together

WILLIAM WATTS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

605 STATE OFFICE BUILDING • 400 SOUTH SPRING STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62706
CHICAGO OFFICE – ROOM 100, 160 NO. LASALLE 60601

February 8, 1977

Dr. Dale E. Birkenholz, Chairman
Illinois Nature Preserves Commission
Department of Biological Sciences
Illinois State University
Normal, IL 61761

Dear Dr. Birkenholz:

At the last Nature Preserves Commission meeting there was a discussion of the possibility of developing a classification system for the nature preserves.

It was obvious from the discussion that some examples of how classifications are used in other states would be helpful in understanding this option. Examples of the Ohio and Tennessee classifications are enclosed. A classification for Illinois could include more details on development and use limitations and could have additional classifications. For example, it might be advisable to divide research areas into fragile and non-fragile types or to have a classification for dedicated "school" natural areas such as Big Creek Woods in Richland County.

The advantages to a classification system revolve around informing the public of what to expect at a preserve and why, and providing more detailed management and development guidelines to managers.

I feel that a classification system offers several positive advantages, and I urge you to give it further consideration and discussion at your coming meeting.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Tamminga
Associate Director for
Land and Historic Sites

CLT/llh
Enclosures

cc: George Fell ✓ - This Letter was sent to all 9 INPC Members.

OHIO SYSTEM

HOW TO USE THE PRESERVE

Nature preserves are one of our greatest resources, and they belong to everyone who loves nature and the out-of-doors. But because they are priceless and irreplaceable, they must be carefully protected so they can be passed on unimpaired for future generations.

Excessive public use can destroy or alter the plant and animal communities within the preserves; therefore, the Department has established a classification system for these preserves which reflect their uniqueness, fragility, and extent of use. Areas are classified as scientific, interpretive, or scenic preserves, with scientific areas being the most restricted in use and scenic areas being the least restricted. Mass recreational activities, camping or organized sports are not permitted. Such areas are intended for research, nature study, bird watching, hiking, art, photography, and other non-consumptive uses.

In areas where facilities have been developed, use of the preserves is restricted to designated trails and other facilities which have been provided for public use. Trails have been not only constructed for the convenience of the visitor but for the protection of the plant and animal life of the preserves as well. Visitors desiring to visit other portions of the preserve which are not served by a trail system must obtain written permission to enter these portions of the preserves.

Not all preserves are developed for public access. Many of the preserves presently within the system have been recently acquired and thus, facilities for public visitation have not been constructed as

EXAMPLE OF DIRECTORY

CLIFTON GORGE NATURE PRESERVE

Greene County

Location: At the east end of John Bryan State Park, along Rt. 343 less than 1/4 mile west of Clifton, Miami Township, Sections 1 & 2, Clifton Quadrangle, 1968.

Size: 255 Acres

Area Type: Geologic/Glacial relic/Chinquapin Oak Forest

Dedication Date: October 2, 1973

Classification: Interpretive/Scientific

Natural Features: Clifton Gorge State Nature Preserve encompasses a two mile stretch of the Little Miami River, just east of John Bryan State Park. Geologically it is an outstanding example of interglacial and post glacial canyon cutting and has been designated as a National Natural Landmark. At one point the river funnels through a deep, narrow channel which was apparently formed by the enlarging and connecting of a series of potholes in the resistant Silurian age dolomite bedrock. In other sections of the gorge the river has cut into less resistant underlying rock. In some cases, the resulting cliff overhangs have broken off and toppled into the valley, accounting for the massive "slump" blocks, such as "Steamboat Rock," scattered along the floor of the valley.

These physical features create a unique environment. The most outstanding plant community occurs along a narrow section of the gorge on the river's south side. The shaded, north-facing slope provides a cool, moist environment for glacial relic plants such as hemlock, yew, arbor vitae, and mountain maple. Other distinct plant communities are also found on the slump blocks, cliff faces, and cliff edges. It is for this reason that the south side of the gorge has been designated as a scientific preserve. Prairie plants, southern species, and trees and shrubs typical of calcareous soils add even more to the diversity of the area.

Ownership and Access: The area is owned by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and managed by the Division of Parks and Recreation. Hiking trails exist on the north side of the gorge for use by the general public. Off-trail access is by written permission only. Use of the south side of the gorge is restricted to scientific research and study. Access to the scientific preserve is by written permission only. For permits contact the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Informational guide available.

TENNESSEE SYSTEM

The purpose of the Natural Areas Program is as follows:

To serve the People of Tennessee
and Their Visitors By:

1. Preserving and protecting Natural Areas of value, not only for the knowledge and inspiration of the present generation; but also for generations to come.
2. Preserving and making available for worthwhile research and interpretation education plant and animal life, ecology, and all other natural features and processes in the various Natural Areas.

NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION ACT

The Natural Areas Act becama a law May 17, 1971. This Act is administered by the Department of Conservation, in cooperation with the Game and Fish Commission and the Conservation Commission, acting as advisory bodies. The Commissioner is authorized to make and shall enforce regulations necessary for the preservation and enhancement of the natural values, and for the control of recreational, educational, scientific, and other uses of these areas in a manner that shall not impair them.

There are two classes of areas within this Act:

CLASS I, Scenic-Recreational Areas, are areas associated with and containing waterfalls, natural bridges, natural lakes, natural streams, gorges, coves, woodlands, caverns or other similar features which are unique in scenic and recreational value and not extensive enough for a State Park but worthy of perpetual preservation.

CLASS II, Natural-Scientific Areas, which are areas associated with and containing floral assemblages, forest types, fossil assemblages, geological phenomena, hydrological phenomena, swamplands and other similar features or phenomena which are unique in natural or scientific value and are worthy of perpetual preservation.

USES OF AREAS

Natural Areas shall be used for the purposes stated in the Act or as provided in the Master Plan for the area. Uses by the public shall be allowed, but only to the extent that they will not pose a threat to the preservation of the natural characteristics of the various preserves.

Class I Areas may be developed with foot trails, foot bridges, scenic overlooks, campgrounds, and small picnic areas, with associated sanitary facilities. Various types of educational material may be available to the public.

Class II Areas may be developed with foot trails, foot bridges, and overlooks, but, if in the discretion of the Commissioner, any portion of the areas is found to be of so fragile a nature that extreme use may damage it, limitations may be placed on activities within these portions. Removal of plants, animals, or geological specimens shall not be permitted except by permission of the Commissioner. Educational material may be made available to the public.

EXCERPT FROM RULES FOR MANAGEMENT OF ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES

5. MANAGEMENT OF VISITORS AND USE

5.01 Use Tolerance

Use of preserves shall be allowed only to such extent and in such manner as will not impair natural conditions. To the extent possible, the master plan shall define the use tolerance of each portion of the preserve and specify the controls and restrictions to be placed on access and use. However, the custodian shall be continuously vigilant for conditions under which use will result in deterioration and shall have the authority and duty to further restrict access and use as necessary to protect the preserve.

5.02 Durability Classes

A classification of durability shall be used to indicate the capacity of an area to withstand trampling and use without deterioration. Classification shall be related to characteristics of soil and vegetation, moisture conditions, and presence of rare or easily disturbed species or features.

5.03 Allowable Use Intensity Zones

Each nature preserve shall be divided into zones of allowable use intensity. Visitor presence and degree of development of trails and visitor handling facilities shall conform to the allowable use intensity zones.

In establishing zones, consideration shall be given to the objectives of the nature preserve as stated in the master plan; to the characteristics of the area such as durability, natural attractions, and presence of rare or easily disturbed species or features; and to the feasibility of providing adequate visitor handling facilities and custodial and interpretive personnel.

Michigan has too few wilderness areas left today. The Michigan Natural Areas Council has successfully worked for the dedication as Natural Area Preserves of selected parts of Wilderness, Tahquamenon Falls, and Porcupine Mountains State Parks, and the Highland Recreation Area; of a tract of virgin red pine in the Houghton Lake State Forest; of virgin hardwoods at Warren Woods; of outstanding sphagnum bog near Proud Lake; and of extensive wild areas of dunes and giant trees on South Manitou Island and of conifer swamp and sand ridges in Lake Superior State Forest.

Other Areas: NATURE RESERVATION: "A tract containing one or more dedicated or potential Natural Area Preserves, Nature Study Areas, and/or Scenic Sites, etc., together with such buffer and service areas as may be required for these special classes of areas, and designated as a Nature Reservation for the purposes of administration for the protection of the natural history values contained within that tract."

This is the broadest category of Natural Area, and can be essential to the orderly management of the more specialized areas which it may contain. It includes the important buffer or "space-cushion" around the Natural Area Preserve which reduces the hazards that may develop through use of adjacent lands. This category also makes possible the initial dedication of a large area until detailed studies of the suitability of its parts for other sorts of Natural Areas can be made.

NATURE RESEARCH AREA: "An area of land dedicated primarily for scientific research even though, whether because of its intrinsic nature or the wishes of the owner or managing agency regarding its use, it may not be satisfactorily classified in one of the other categories." Although research is always encouraged in Natural Areas, this category is dedicated primarily for that purpose. For example, a large Nature Research Area, in an even larger Nature Reservation, has been dedicated on the lands of the Huron Mountain Club.

MANAGED TRACT: "An area in which specific desirable habitats are maintained or established by artificially regulating or manipulating the conditions which control the environment." To preserve a particular stage in succession or to promote or maintain a particular species, or for other reasons, management techniques inappropriate in other types of Natural Areas, such as controlled burning or water level adjustment, may be necessary. Such a tract, for example, has been dedicated in the Tobico Marsh State Game Area.

YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT IS URGENTLY NEEDED TO HELP MAKE MICHIGAN A MORE BEAUTIFUL AND RESOURCEFUL LAND FOR THIS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

The Michigan Natural Areas Council invites your help in locating and preserving an adequate network of carefully selected Natural Areas. It invites your membership. Annual dues are $5.00. If you are not in touch with a current officer, inquiries may be addressed c/o University of Michigan Botanical Gardens, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105.

MICHIGAN

NATURAL AREAS COUNCIL

rec'd 10/31/74

for the

Preservation in Michigan

of

SCENIC SITES, NATURE STUDY ARE

NATURAL AREA PRESERVES, an

other wild lands



WHY AND HOW?

Michigan was originally endowed with a vast wealth of natural beauty and a great variety of plant and animal life. Unfortunately, many of the finest portions of this heritage have vanished. Others have been so altered as to retain little of their original character. Those natural habitats and beauty spots which yet survive are threatened by the pressures of our increasing population and the ever-present desire of some for complete exploitation of our resources.

The Michigan Natural Areas Council has as its goal the preservation of areas of outstanding scenic beauty or scientific value which are representative of the full variety of Michigan's natural wealth. Woods of all kinds, bogs, dunes, and other entire communities are not only valuable resources as such, but their preservation is also the only way in which the particular plants and animals characteristic of them may be safeguarded. Who can say what the full potential value of any species is? Or what its full role may be in the intricate dynamics of its environment? We have the responsibility to allow no species, or no community, to become extinct. We have the duty to pass on to future generations the very best that we can of our natural heritage undisturbed - the storehouse, as it were, of inter-relating plants and animals, evolved through the ages in fantastically complex equilibrium.

The Michigan Natural Areas Council seeks to locate and evaluate choice natural areas and to prepare recommendations for their preservation under the most appropriate categories, as described below. The Council includes in its membership representatives from conservation organizations, educational institutions, and scientific societies, together with individual scientists and other nature-lovers from many parts of the state. It is thus able to study natural areas on a statewide basis, with professional advice on the suitability of each area. The Council is basically an advisory group and does not itself own lands; it seeks formal dedication by owners, whether public or private, and cooperates with other state and

national organizations, such as the Nature Conservancy, in obtaining lands which can be held by appropriate agencies under legal safeguards guaranteeing their maintenance in perpetuity as natural areas.

SCENIC SITE

"An area having unusual scenic values, and dedicated for their preservation and public enjoyment."

A Scenic Site may be a beauty spot in its own right, such as a towering dune, a picturesque shoreline, or a silvery cascade in a wooded glen--or it may simply be a vantage point commanding such a lovely vista. In any case the charm of the site to a large degree depends on the unspoiled naturalness of its plants, soil, and water. Thoughtlessness and vandalism are constant threats to these elements of natural beauty. Wise management can do much, however, to minimize these dangers.

The Michigan Natural Areas Council believes that the beauty of these sites should be preserved for the present and the future. Dedication as a Scenic Site is a means of affixing responsibility for sound management, leading to maximum enjoyment with minimum disturbance. Scenic Sites where we have aided in dedication include ones in Tahquamenon Falls and Porcupine Mountains State Parks and at Wagner and Laughing Whitefish Falls.

NATURE STUDY AREA

"An area possessing significant natural history values, so located as to be available for general use in nature study, conservation education, and the development of knowledge of natural processes, and dedicated for these purposes."

In a Nature Study Area, educational values are paramount. Geological or biological lessons stand out with special clarity; either unusual or typical natural features can be found dependably, year after year. No printed page, no picture, no preserved specimen can equal the teaching value of the actual object in its natural habitat. The need for these permanent living outdoor museums is especially acute around larger cities (where rising valuations pose severe financial difficulties and where the advance of "civilization" often leaves little wildlife but the starling and the cosmopolitan weed) and in areas near schools and in State Parks, where interpretive programs reach many people.

The Michigan Natural Areas Council has been instrumental in the dedication of several Nature Study Areas, including ones in Wilderness, Warren Dunes, and Tahquamenon Falls State Parks, the Highland and Rochester-Utica Recreation Areas, and on South Manitou Island.

NATURAL AREA PRESERVE

"An area which contains one or more typical or unusual examples of various plant and animal communities, and which has been dedicated for maximum preservation and for the observation and scientific study of these communities."

As climatic conditions fluctuate through successive cycles, soils form and erode, plants and animals wax and wane. These long-range relationships are of profound significance but can be adequately studied only by long-term, continued observations. The best wild areas of various types must be given protection against all disturbance by man, and left in as natural condition as possible. Only in this way can their wilderness values be enjoyed to the utmost, and can we learn where and why the wildflowers, fungi, insects, and other creatures grow and live as they do.

OHIO

Classification for a State Nature Preserve System

(I) Type of Areas

(A) Scientific Nature Preserve
(B) Interpretive Nature Preserve
(C) Scenic Nature Preserve

(II) Criteria for judging areas

(A) Scientific Nature Preserve

(1) Are areas which represent as closely as possible the original natural features of the State.

(2) Are of the highest quality and are designed for preservation of a biological community, plant species, animal species, or geological feature.

(3) Restricted access - entrance by written permission only.

(4) Its use, even for research, should be under restrictions in order to maintain the features for which it was established.

(5) Little use is justified due to frailness of area or due to danger of disturbing research in progress.

(6) No improvements are permitted unless necessary for continued preservation.

(B) Interpretive Nature Preserve

(1) Are areas which represent outstanding examples of native plant and animal communities or other features of natural history, or are areas which represent as closely as possible the original natural features of the State.

(2) Can withstand moderate use for educational purposes in addition to research uses.

(3) Access limited to supervised groups, guided tours, and by permission only.

(4) Hiking trails, observation platforms, walkways, and interpretive devices may be permitted but other improvements and facilities are permitted in buffer areas only.

(5) Special management practices may be needed to maintain area and prevent over-use.

(C) Scenic Nature Preserve

(1) Are areas of scenic excellence, comparatively undisturbed or in the process of returning to natural (original) condition.

(2) Can withstand moderate to heavy use. Portions of existing state, county or local parks and forests may qualify in this category or higher if it meets above criteria.

(3) Improvements and facilities may be permitted on fringe of areas - trails and interpretive devices permitted within areas.

(4) Management practices may be needed - zoning areas for light use, etc.

OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE NATURE PRESERVES
RULES

NRnp-1-01

Exceptions

The following rules and regulations are applicable to all Nature Preserves under the supervision and control of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources or its designated custodian. However, nothing herein shall be interpreted or construed in such a manner as to prevent or delay authorized personnel of the Department of Natural Resources or its designated custodian in the completion of necessary duties or while on patrol or emergency service.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-1-02

Definitions

As used in these rules and regulations the following terms shall have the meanings indicated, except where the context otherwise requires:

(A) "Department" means the State of Ohio, Department of Natural Resources.

(B) "Custodian" means the Department, any Division thereof, agency, or individual who is so designated in the Articles of Dedication to administer and manage a nature preserve.

(C) "Nature Preserve" means an area which is formally dedicated and administered under Chapter 1517 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(D) "Scientific Nature Preserve" means an area which, (1) represents as closely as possible the original natural features of the State, (2) is of the highest quality, (3) is designated for the preservation of a biological community, plant species, animal species, or geological feature, (4) is restricted to scientific research and study and, (5) is so designated in the Articles of Dedication.

(E) "Interpretive Nature Preserve" means an area which, (1) either represents an outstanding example of native plant and animal communities or other features of natural history, or is an area which represents as closely as possible the original natural features of the State, (2) is restricted to educational purposes, and (3) is so designated in the Articles of Dedication.

(F) "Scenic Nature Preserve" means an area, (1) of scenic excellence, (2) comparatively undisturbed, or in the process of returning to a natural or original condition, (3) is open for use by the general public, and (4) is so designated in the Articles of Dedication.

(G) "Vehicle" means every contrivance on wheels or runners capable of being used as a means of transportation on land.

(H) "Motor Vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power.

(I) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association, or any combination of individuals, or any employee, agent, or officer thereof.

(J) "Camping" means utilization of a sleeping bag, tent, trailer, or other mobile equipment, for the purpose of occupying a portion of State land for transient and temporary outdoor living away from home.

(K) "Picnicking" means the consumption of any food or beverage by an individual or group of individuals.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-1-03 Visitation of Scientific Nature Preserves: Restrictions

No person shall be within the confines of a Scientific Nature Preserve without the written permission of the Director of the Department of Natural Resources or his appointed agent, except in areas and facilities as are provided for general public use. Such written permission shall be displayed upon request.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-1-04 Visitation of Interpretive Nature Preserves; Restrictions

No person shall be within the confines of an Interpretive Nature Preserve without the written permission of the Director of the Department of Natural Resources or his appointed agent except in areas and facilities as are provided for general public use. Such written permission shall be displayed upon request.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-1-05 Visitation of Scenic Nature Preserves; Restrictions

No person shall be within the confines of a Scenic Nature Preserve except upon improved trails, walkways, observation platforms, and other facilities as are designated for general public use.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-1-06 Open Hours, Closed Hours, Dates

No person shall be present on any nature preserve under the supervision and control of the Department of Natural Resources or its designated custodian between the hours of 10:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, and 6:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, from April 1 to November 15, annually, both dates inclusive, or between the hours of 8:30 p.m , Eastern Standard Time, and

8:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, from November 16 to March 31, annually, both dates inclusive, without first obtaining the written permission of the Director of the Department or his appointed agent.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-3-01 Preservation of Property

No person shall injure, deface, disturb or destroy any part of any nature preserve including but not limited to any building, sign, equipment, tree, flower, shrub, rock or other natural feature or any other property found therein.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-3-02 Collecting Prohibited, Exceptions

No person shall collect, remove, or otherwise disturb ice, soil, sand, gravel, rocks, fossils, minerals, plants, plant materials, animals or any other substance from any nature preserve under the supervision and control of the Department of Natural Resources or its designated custodian except as provided in this rule and in NRnp-3-03. Collecting of materials for research purposes may be permitted upon written application to and approval by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources or his appointed agent. A permit shall be valid not to exceed one year, but may be renewed at the discretion of the Director or his appointed agent.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-3-03 Hunting and Fishing Prohibited: Exceptions

No person shall hunt, pursue or trap game birds, game quadrupeds, of fur bearing animals or take or catch any fish on any lands or waters within a Scientific or Interpretive Nature Preserve under the supervision and control of the Department of Natural Resources or its designated custodian. It shall be lawful to hunt or trap game birds, game quadrupeds, or fur bearing animals or take or catch any fish on any lands or waters within a Scenic Nature Preserve provided such is done in accordance with the provisions of the Revised Code or Wildlife Orders then in effect.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-3-04 Firearms Prohibited; Exceptions

No person, except employees or officers of the Department, shall carry or use firearms of any description, or air rifle, sling-shot or missle throwing device, within a Scientific or Interpretive Nature Preserve, or discharge any firearms, fireworks, or explosive substances, or air rifle therein without written permission of the Director of the Department or his designated agent. The use of firearms and longbows is permitted in designated hunting areas within Scenic Nature Preserves provided that such is done in accordance with the provisions of the Revised Code or Wildlife Orders then in effect.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-5-01 Disposition of Refuse

No person shall dump rubbish, garbage, refuse, and debris of any kind within a nature preserve except in such places and within such receptacles as are provided therefor. Residents on private property shall not deposit rubbish, garbage, refuse, or debris accruing from such residences in any refuse receptacles provided for preserve visitors on such lands.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-5-02 Kindling a Fire Prohibited

No person shall kindle or authorize another to kindle a fire in any nature preserve except in such devices as are provided by the Department or its designated agent.

No person shall leave any fire unattended or empty the contents of any furnace, stove, or other burner onto the ground before the same has been extinguished.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NRnp-5-03 Pets Prohibited; Exceptions

No person shall bring any animal, except a seeing eye dog, into a Scientific or Interpretive Nature Preserve. Animals may be permitted within a Scenic Nature Preserve; however, no person shall refuse or fail to keep such animal on a leash in hand and under control at all times except when used for hunting purposes pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the revised code or wildlife orders then in effect. Said leash shall not exceed six (6) feet in length from hand to animal.

Effective date: October 20, 1971

NATURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION BILL

OUTLINE

INPC 62
Item 14

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80th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
State of Illinois

1977 and 1978

INTRODUCED _____, BY

SYNOPSIS: (New Act; Ch. 30, par. 158a; Ch. 57 1/2, pars. 6a, 111; Ch. 105, par. 8-14; Ch. 111 2/3 par. 702.13; Ch. 120, par. 501; Ch. 127, par. 132.52; Ch. 105, rep. pars. 465a, 466a through 466d, 501 through 508, 511 through 517)

Creates the "Natural Heritage Preservation Act". Establishes the Illinois Natural Heritage Commission and defines its powers and duties. Provides for a system of nature preserves, for a register of natural and reserve areas, and for the control and management of natural and reserve areas. Prescribes penalties for violations of the Act. Amends references to certain repealed Sections.

LRB80-2927-RSW/js

A BILL FOR

AN ACT to establish the Natural Heritage Preservation Act, providing for the Illinois Natural Heritage Commission and defining its powers and duties, providing for a system of nature preserves and a register of natural areas and reserve areas and for the control and management thereof, and prescribing penalties for violations.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 1. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Natural Heritage Preservation Act".

Section 2. All areas within the State except those that are expressly designated by law for preservation and protection in their natural condition are liable to be altered by human activity. Natural lands and waters together with the plants and animals living thereon in natural communities are a part of the heritage of the people. They are of value for scientific research, for teaching, as reservoirs of natural materials not all of the potential uses of which are now known, as habitats for rare and vanishing species, as places of historic and natural interest and scenic beauty and as living museums of the native landscape wherein one may envision and experience primeval conditions in a wilderness-like environment.

It is therefore the public policy of the State of Illinois to secure for the people of present and future generations the benefits in an enduring resource of natural areas, including the elements of natural diversity present in the State, by establishing a system of nature preserves, protecting nature preserves and gathering and disseminating information regarding them, establishing and maintaining a register of natural areas and reserve areas, providing certain forms of protection and control of registered natural areas and registered reserve areas and otherwise encouraging

and assisting in the preservation of natural areas and features.

Section 3. Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms defined in Sections 3.01 through 3.18 have the meanings ascribed to them in those Sections.

Section 3.01. "Abandoned cemetery" means a cemetery (a) in which no interments have been made and no parts of which have been conveyed or transferred (other than by inheritance or operation of law) for at least 30 years, (b) which has been exempt from real estate taxes for at least 30 years and (c) for which there is no cemetery authority.

Section 3.02. "Cemetery" means a parcel of land devoted to, or at least a part of which is being used for, the interment of human remains.

Section 3.03. "Cemetery authority" means a legally constituted owner, operator, manager or other person in control of a cemetery and actively attending to its care and maintenance.

Section 3.04. "Commission" means the Illinois Natural Heritage Commission created under this Act.

Section 3.05. "Dedicate" means to dedicate real property as a nature preserve or as buffer area as provided in this Act.

Section 3.06. "Department" means the Department of Conservation.

Section 3.07. "Director" means the Director of the Department.

Section 3.08. "Land" means real property and ownership rights applying thereto and includes water and the land thereunder, structures, and improvements.

Section 3.09. "Natural area" means an area of land in public or private ownership which, in the opinion of the Commission, either retains or has recovered to some degree its original natural or primeval character, though it need not be completely undisturbed, or has floral, faunal,

ecological, geological or archaeological features of scientific, educational, scenic or esthetic interest.

Section 3.10. "Nature preserve" means a natural area, and land necessary for its protection, any estate, interest or right in which has been formally dedicated under the provisions of this Act to be maintained as nearly as possible in its natural condition and to be used in a manner and under limitations consistent with its continued preservation, without impairment, disturbance or artificial development, for the public purposes of present and future scientific research, education, esthetic enjoyment and providing habitat for plant and animal species and communities and other natural objects.

Section 3.11. "Plan" means a master plan, developed and approved in accordance with the rules, for the preservation, protection, development and management of a nature preserve or a registered area.

Section 3.12. "Register" means the list of registered natural areas and reserve areas.

Section 3.13. "Registered area" means a registered natural area or a registered reserve area.

Section 3.14. "Registered natural area" means a natural area registered by the Commission under this Act.

Section 3.15. "Registered reserve area" means an area of land or water registered by the Commission under this Act to protect or to provide access to a nature preserve or a registered natural area.

Section 3.16. "Rules" means rules adopted by the Commission under this Act.

Section 3.17. "System" means the State system of nature preserves established under this Act.

Section 3.18. "Wetland" means an area where the ground is saturated with water at or near the surface during a substantial part of most years and which qualifies as a wetland under criteria adopted by the Commission based on

physical and biological characteristics of the area.

Section 4. The Illinois Natural Heritage Commission is created. The Commission succeeds the Commission created by "An Act relating to the creation of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and defining its powers and duties", approved August 28, 1963, as amended. The Commission consists of 9 members appointed by the Governor. The Chief of the Illinois Natural History Survey and the Director of the Illinois State Museum shall advise the Governor on the making of appointments to the Commission and shall provide him with recommendations of suitable persons. The Governor shall obtain the advice of the Chief of the Illinois Natural History Survey and the Director of the Illinois State Museum concerning the suitability of any person he proposes to appoint as a member of the Commission. Members shall be persons who have an interest in the preservation of natural areas. There shall be a reasonably balanced representation of lay persons and professionally knowledgeable persons. Any vacancies in the Commission shall be filled in the same manner. The members of the Commission created by "An Act relating to the creation of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and defining its powers and duties", approved August 28, 1963, as amended, incumbent on the effective date of this Act shall serve as members of this Commission until the expiration of their terms under that Act. Members shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualify. Their successors shall be appointed for 3-year terms, expiring on June 30. When an appointment is made to fill a vacancy, the appointment shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term. Any member of the Commission who has served 2 consecutive full terms is ineligible for reappointment for a period of one year following the expiration of his second term.

The Commission shall organize by selecting from its membership a chairman and such other officers as it considers

necessary and shall adopt rules for transacting its business and keeping records thereof. The Commission shall meet annually or more frequently upon the call of the chairman or 3 members. The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in connection with the performance of their duties.

Section 5. The Director, the Chief of the Natural History Survey and the Director of the State Museum, or their representatives, and representatives of such other agencies, institutions and organizations as the Commission may determine shall serve as advisors to the Commission with the privilege of discussion and debate, but without the right to vote, in the meetings of the Commission. The advisors shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in connection with the performance of their duties. The Commission may meet without the participation of the advisors when it so desires.

Section 6. To effectuate the purposes of this Act, the Commission has the powers and duties specified in Sections 6.01 through 6.14.

Section 6.01. To appoint, employ and assign duties to officers, agents and employees, which appointments shall be made on the basis of merit but shall not be subject to the "Personnel Code", approved July 18, 1955, as now or hereafter amended.

Section 6.02. To cooperate, contract and enter into agreements with any Federal, State or local governmental agency, private organization or individual.

Section 6.03. To accept and administer gifts, grants, devises and bequests of money, securities or property to be used by the Commission for the purposes of this Act and according to the tenor of such gift, grant, devise or bequest.

Section 6.04. To compile and maintain inventories, registers and records of nature preserves, other natural

areas and features, and species of plants and animals (particularly those that are rare or endangered) and their habitats.

Section 6.05. To acquire by gift, devise, purchase, transfer, grant, agreement, dedication, condemnation under "An Act to provide for the exercise of the right of eminent domain", approved April 10, 1872, as now or hereafter amended, or other method, the fee simple title to real property or any one or more lesser estates, interests or rights therein, including but not limited to leasehold estates, easements either appurtenant or in gross and either granting the Commission specified rights of use or denying to the grantor specified rights of use or both (which easements may be perpetual and shall not be extinguished by conveyance of the servient estate), licenses, covenants and other contractual rights in real property and to hold and manage the same within or without the system of nature preserves and with or without public access.

Section 6.06. To seek and approve the dedication of nature preserves as part of the system.

Section 6.07. To supervise the protection, management and use of nature preserves.

Section 6.08. To register natural areas and reserve areas, and to maintain and administer the register and the protection of registered areas.

Section 6.09. To enter and cross over any lands in the State to carry out this Act, doing no damage to property.

Section 6.10. To conduct research, investigations, public meetings and interpretive programs and to publish and disseminate information and recommendations pertaining to nature preserves and other natural areas and features, and species of plants and animals (particularly those that are rare or endangered) and their habitats.

Section 6.11. To promote, advise and assist in the preservation, protection and management of natural areas and

features and otherwise foster and aid in the preservation of natural conditions elsewhere than in nature preserves.

Section 6.12. To consider, evaluate and report on proposed legislation, policies, regulations or actions, public or private, that may significantly affect the natural ecology of the State.

Section 6.13. To submit to the Governor, and to publish, before May 1 of each odd-numbered year a report which shall account for the condition of each nature preserve and each registered area and shall tabulate or otherwise set forth actions of the Commission relating to the status of nature preserves and registered areas, and to publish such additional reports as it deems necessary.

Section 6.14. To make, publish, administer and enforce policies, rules and plans for development and maintenance of the nature preserves system and for the selection, acquisition, management, protection and use of nature preserves and registered areas; for the dedication of nature preserves within the system; for the registration of natural areas and reserve areas; for the protection of registered areas; for the protection of rare, endangered or vulnerable species and their habitats; for the protection of archaeological sites and artifacts and for the conduct of Commission affairs.

Section 7. The Commission may transfer, lease or assign custody or other interest or right in, or contract for the custody, maintenance and operation of, a nature preserve or other real property, when held by it, to, or with, another public or charitable agency or organization. Such transfer, lease assignment or contract must be for and consistent with the purposes of this Act and the public benefit and may not affect the dedication of a nature preserve or the powers and duties of the Commission.

Section 8. The Commission may perform surveillance, custodial, management and development work (a) on dedicated

areas and (b) on registered areas to which a public agency or charitable organization holds title or an easement or interest for permanent public benefit.

Section 9. To effectuate the purposes of this Act, the Department has the powers and duties enumerated in Sections 9.01 through 9.05.

Section 9.01. To provide administrative and other services, assistance and facilities to and otherwise cooperate with the Commission in such ways as may be agreed upon by the Director and the Commission.

Section 9.02. To enforce, with the approval of the Commission, rules established by the Commission pertaining to public use of and activities on nature preserves and on any real property held by the Commission.

Section 9.03. To acquire by gift, devise, purchase, transfer, grant, agreement, dedication, condemnation under "An Act to provide for the exercise of the right of eminent domain", approved April 10, 1872, as now or hereafter amended, or other method, the fee simple title to real property or any one or more lesser estates, interests or rights therein, including but not limited to leasehold estates, easements either appurtenant or in gross and either granting the Department specified rights of use or denying to the grantor specified rights of use or both (which easements may be perpetual and shall not be extinguished by conveyance of the servient estate), licenses, convenants and other contractual rights in real property and to hold and manage the same within or without the system of nature preserves and with or without public access.

Section 9.04. To dedicate as nature preserves, in the manner provided in this Act, real property held by it.

Section 9.05. To accept the transfer from or to transfer to the Commission real property or any interests or rights therein.

Section 10. The Commission and the Department shall

coordinate and allocate their activities in an effective and practical manner and may share or pool goods and services as may be appropriate.

Section 11. The Commission may adopt and amend policies and rules for the administration of this Act, and in accordance therewith may enter into agreements with any owner, occupant or custodian of land in a registered area. Policies may be adopted by such procedure as the rules may provide. Proposed rules shall be submitted to the Governor and made available for public review and comment. The Commission shall allow all persons desiring to be heard to have a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The manner of giving public notice of the proposal to adopt rules and providing the opportunity for persons to be heard shall be as the Commission deems appropriate. The Commission shall consider any statements submitted to it in determining its decision concerning adoption of the proposed rules. Not less than 60 days after submitting the proposed rules to the Governor and making them available for public review, if the Governor has not notified the Commission of his disapproval of the proposed rules, the Commission may adopt the rules. No opportunity for persons to be heard shall be required prior to the adoption or amendment of rules if the Commission determines that the proposed rules or amendment do not include any substantial new application of public policy. The policies, rules and agreements may, in addition to other provisions, allow and provide conditions for (a) public acquisition of land, (b) changes of use or management of land, (c) erection or alteration of structures, (d) other actions that may affect the character or use of land, (e) classification of land, (f) establishment of conditions differing between one class of land and another, and (g) waiving of any conditions or restriction of this Act as it may apply to a specified registered area or a parcel or class of land therein.

Section 12. The Commission shall prepare and adopt a master plan for each nature preserve or registered area. The plan shall be in such form as the rules may provide.

The Commission shall prepare a draft plan for each registered area within 18 months of the date of registration or within 48 months after this Act becomes a law, whichever is the later date. The plan shall be in such form as the rules may provide. The Commission shall make the draft plan for a registered area available for public review, and it shall give public notice of the proposal to adopt the plan and provide an opportunity for any person to be heard, or to request the holding of a public meeting, in the manner provided under Section 32. The Commission may make, publish and adopt a plan concurrently with registration of the area. No public notice or opportunity for any person to be heard shall be required prior to the amendment of a plan if the Commission determines that the proposed amendment does not constitute a substantive change in the plan.

The plan shall provide for the protection, management, development and use of public areas; designate areas proposed for public acquisition and designate areas which should remain in private ownership so long as their development and use is compatible with protection and preservation of natural values of the nature preserve or registered area. The plan may include other appropriate provisions.

A plan may be amended in the same manner as provided for its adoption. Each plan shall be reviewed, and amended as necessary, at periodic intervals as shall be provided in the rules.

The Commission may cause a plan or a part thereof to be filed for record in the office of the recorder of deeds of each county in which the nature preserve or registered area is located.

Section 13. A State system of nature preserves is established. The system consists of nature preserves

dedicated as provided in this Act.

A natural area which has been found by the Commission to be suitable for inclusion in the system shall become a nature preserve upon its dedication by the owner of the land, or of an interest or a right therein, with the approval of the Commission and the Governor. Dedication may be either donative or for a consideration. The dedication shall be evidenced by an instrument of dedication which shall be in such form as the Commission may approve. So long as consistent with the purposes of this Act, the instrument of dedication may (a) define the respective rights and duties of the owner or custodian and the Commission; (b) contain provisions relating to management, development, use, public access, sale or transfer; (c) provide procedures to be applied in case of violation of its provisions; (d) recognize or create reversionary rights, transfers upon conditions and gifts; (e) contain such other provisions as may be necessary or advisable and (f) vary in provisions from one nature preserve to another in accordance with differences in the characteristics and conditions of the areas involved.

The Commission shall cause the instrument of dedication and any amendments thereto to be filed for record in the office of the recorder of deeds of each county in which the nature preserve is located.

Section 14. For the purpose of protecting a nature preserve, adjoining land that is not suitable or available for dedication as part of the nature preserve may be dedicated as buffer area in the same manner as provided in this Act for the dedication of a nature preserve. A dedicated buffer area shall have the same protection under this Act as a nature preserve.

Section 15. Any part or all of a cemetery that is suitable for dedication may be dedicated, as provided in Section 13, by the owner or other cemetery authority. Dedication of a cemetery or a part thereof does not affect

its status as a cemetery or affect any rights of continuing use of the cemetery for cemetery purposes including the maintenance, construction or preservation of markers, monuments or memorials, the care of any burial space or the use of a burial space for an interment, except that after the cemetery is dedicated the cemetery authority shall not convey or assign any right of interment or authorize any interment for which there was not a prior right.

Section 16. If all or part of an abandoned cemetery is suitable for dedication, the county board for the county in which it is situated may dedicate it in the manner provided in this Act. If a county board proposes and intends to dedicate a described abandoned cemetery or part thereof, it shall so notify the Commission by resolution. Upon receiving the resolution of the county board, the Commission shall give public notice of the proposal and provide an opportunity for any person to be heard or to request the holding of a public meeting, as provided in Section 32, on the question of whether the cemetery is an abandoned cemetery and, if so, whether it should be dedicated. If, after considering any statements it receives on the matter, the Commission decides the cemetery is an abandoned cemetery and that it should be dedicated, the county board may dedicate the cemetery or part thereof as provided in Section 13.

Section 17. An owner of a nature preserve retains or may assign custody, administration and management thereof, subject to the rules and the plan. If the owner or custodian declines, is unable or fails to administer and manage the nature preserve in accordance with the rules and the plan, the Commission shall undertake or assign such custodial, administrative and management functions as it may consider necessary for the protection, maintenance and use of the nature preserve until the disability or failure of the owner or custodian is removed or a successor custodian is designated.

Section 18. Nature preserves are held in trust, for those uses and purposes expressed in this Act which are not prohibited by their instruments of dedication, for the benefit of the people of the State of present and future generations. Areas dedicated as nature preserves are hereby declared to be put to their highest, best and most important use for the public benefit. They shall be protected, managed and used in a manner approved by, and subject to rules established by, the Commission. They may not be taken under power of eminent domain or by other means for any other use except another public use and except upon approval of the Commission, the Governor and any public owner of a dedicated interest therein after a finding by the Commission of the existence of an imperative and unavoidable public necessity for such other public use, and upon such terms and conditions as the Commission may determine, except as may otherwise be provided in the instrument of dedication.

The owner of a dedicated interest or right in a nature preserve and the Commission may amend the instrument of dedication, with the approval of the Governor, after the Commission has found the amendment will not permit an impairment, disturbance, development or use of the nature preserve or the natural features therein in a manner inconsistent with the purposes of this Act.

Before the Commission may make a finding of the existence of an imperative and unavoidable public necessity for such other public use, may grant or dispose of a nature preserve, may grant a license, easement or other interest or right therein or may amend any instrument of dedication, it must give public notice of the proposed action and provide an opportunity for any person to be heard or to request the holding of a public meeting, as provided in Section 32.

The Commission shall cause any legal instrument altering the status of a nature preserve and approved by it under this Section to be filed for record in the office of the recorder

of deeds for each county in which the nature preserve is located.

Section 19. Any public agency or instrumentality of the State and its political subdivisions has the power and is urged to dedicate suitable areas or portions of areas within its holdings and to continue holding them as nature preserves. Any public agency or instrumentality holding a natural area with the intention of preserving natural conditions thereon or for a purpose the Commission determines to be compatible with dedication of the area as a nature preserve shall dedicate it, subject to approval of the Commission and the Governor.

Section 20. A register of natural areas and reserve areas is established. The register consists of areas registered by the Commission under this Act.

The registration of an area shall conform with the policies, rules and comprehensive plans of the Commission. A registered area may be in public or private ownership and may or may not be proposed for public acquisition. A registered area may be a nature preserve.

The register of natural areas shall include areas considered by the Commission to be worthy of preservation for the public purposes of present and future scientific research, education, scenic and esthetic enjoyment and providing habitat and protection for plant and animal species and communities and other natural features. The register of reserve areas shall include areas necessary for the protection of, or for providing access to, a registered natural area. No natural area shall be construed to be unworthy of preservation because it is not registered. Publication of the register is notice to all persons that the registered areas are worthy of preservation.

Section 21. Prior to the registration of an area, the Commission shall prepare and make public a statement and explanation of the character of the area, the objectives and

procedures of registration, the actions that will be prohibited and the actions that will be allowed within the area, together with a map showing the approximate location and boundary of the proposed registered area. The map shall show the ownership boundaries and persons shown on the county assessment list as owners or taxpaying agents of owners of all tracts in the proposed registered areas, as shown on the latest available tax record in the office of the county treasurer, and other pertinent information. The Commission shall give notice of the proposal to register the area and shall provide an opportunity for any person to be heard, or to request the holding of a public meeting, in the manner provided in Section 32.

Thereafter, if the Governor has not notified the Commission of his disapproval of the proposal to register the area, the Commission may register the area with any boundary changes resulting from the meeting or the written comments. The Commission shall cause notice of the registration of the area, together with a map thereof showing ownership boundaries, to be recorded in the office of the recorder of deeds for each county in which the area is located.

Section 22. The Commission shall publish notice of the registration of the area and of the recording of notice and map thereof in one or more newspapers of general circulation in all counties in which the area is located and shall give notice within 45 days thereafter to all persons shown on the county assessment list as owners or taxpaying agents of owners of tracts within the area.

Section 23. The Commission may enlarge a registered area. Public notice and opportunity for any person to be heard, or to request the holding of a public meeting, shall be given, and the addition shall be made and recorded and notice given in the manner provided for registration of an area.

Section 24. The Commission, with the approval of the

Governor, may remove part or all of an area from the register. It shall give public notice and opportunity for any person to be heard, or to request the holding of a public meeting, and shall remove the area from the register, cause the recording thereof and give notice thereof in the same manner as is provided for the registration of an area. An area or part thereof that has been removed from the register may be reregistered in the same manner as provided for the registration of an area.

Section 25. After the Commission registers an area, no owner, other person or agency other than the Commission shall take or approve an action affecting the area except as provided in this Act. An action affecting a registered area is any action undertaken in, on, under, pertaining to or with reference to any part of the area, including, but not limited to, incurring development costs or constructing or placing improvements; rebuilding, altering, adding to or demolishing an existing structure; excavating, drilling, moving or removing earth or minerals; depositing waste, fill or other material; cutting, removing or damaging trees or other natural vegetation; cultivating, planting, draining, flooding or otherwise disturbing or altering natural conditions; petitioning for or granting a change of zoning; recording a subdivision plat; selling or placing on the market for sale, conveying or encumbering title to, or subdividing or taking for another public purpose. An action affecting a registered area is permitted if it is one of the following: (a) continuance of lawful occupancy and use or management operations or practices in essentially the same manner as established and carried on at any time during the 5 years prior to the time the Commission gives notice of the proposal to register the area; (b) normal or emergency maintenance and repairs of existing structures; (c) emergency action taken for safety; (d) action undertaken in accordance with the rules; (e) action undertaken in accordance with the plan; (f)

action taken under a certificate of compliance issued by the Commission; (g) conveyance or division of land resulting from bona fide devise, inheritance or operation of law; (h) improvement or enlargement of an existing single-family owner-occupied residence, or structure appurtenant thereto, 45 days after giving notice in writing, in such form as the rules may prescribe, of intent to do so to the Commission, if no public agency has given written notice to the owner within the 45-day period that it is proceeding to acquire the property under power of eminent domain; and (i) placing on the market for sale or conveying title to, or an interest in, real property 45 days after giving notice in writing, in such form as the rules may prescribe, of intent to do so to the Commission, if no public agency has given written notice to the owner within the 45-day period that it is proceeding to acquire the property under power of eminent domain.

Prior to registration of an area, for a period of not more than 130 days after the Commission gives notice of its proposal to register the area, no owner, other person or agency other than the Commission shall take or approve an action except as would be permitted if the area were registered.

Section 26.01. A person or agency desiring to undertake an action which may be taken only under a certificate of compliance shall first apply to the Commission for a certificate. The application shall be made in writing in such form as the rules may prescribe.

Section 26.02. If the Commission finds the proposed action is permitted under Section 25 or will not damage or prevent the preservation of the registered area or the natural features therein, it shall issue the certificate of compliance.

Section 26.03. The Commission may disapprove, and refuse to issue a certificate of conformance for, a proposed action on a registered area (a) if the applicant is a public agency

or instrumentality or a charitable conservation organization or (b) if it determines that the proposed action would adversely affect natural conditions on wetland or standing or flowing water in the registered area; would result in soil erosion, sedimentation or alteration of surface or ground water hydrology in the registered area or would be for the purpose of exploiting, removing or deliberately damaging specimens of fossils, an archaeological site or artifacts therein or a plant or animal it has determined to be endangered, threatened or vulnerable. If the Commission proposes to disapprove of a proposed action under this Section, it shall, within 45 days after receipt of the application for a certificate of compliance, give notice of its proposed action and shall provide an opportunity for any person to be heard, or to request the holding of a public meeting, in the manner provided in Section 32.

Section 26.04. If the Commission does not act on an application for a certificate of compliance under Section 26.02 or 26.03, it shall (a) take action to preserve the area or enter into discussions with the person or agency that applied for the certificate and with any other interested person or agency to seek a means of assuring preservation of the registered area or of allowing the proposed action in a manner that will not damage or prevent the preservation of the area and (b) give notice of the proposed action and provide an opportunity for any person to be heard, or to request the holding of a public meeting, in the manner provided in Section 32.

Section 26.05. If, within 60 days after receipt of the application for a certificate of compliance or 45 days after the holding of a public meeting on the matter, (a) the Commission has not issued the certificate in a form satisfactory to the applicant or initiated action to disapprove the proposed action under Section 26.03, (b) no alternate action satisfactory to the applicant has been

initiated (c) no public agency has given written notice to the owner that it is proceeding to acquire the property under power of eminent domain, (d) the Commission finds that the applicant has negotiated in good faith, (e) no public meeting on the matter has been requested or scheduled and (f) the Commission finds that it and interested scientists have had reasonable opportunity to observe, record or salvage natural features and conditions that will be destroyed by the proposed action, the Commission shall issue the certificate. The Commission may delay the issuance of the certificate for an additional period of up to 90 days if it determines the applicant has not negotiated in good faith and it wishes to continue the negotiations or if the delay is necessary to provide a reasonable opportunity for the Commission and interested scientists to observe, record or salvage natural features and conditions that will be destroyed by the proposed action.

Section 26.06. A certificate of compliance shall terminate one year or more after it is issued if the rules so provide. The Commission may suspend or revoke a certificate of compliance for cause.

Section 27. If the Commission determines for any part of a proposed or established registered area that the continuance of any operation, practice or action established on or pertaining to the area prior to the date of recording the notice of registration of the area will have an adverse effect on the features or values or be preserved, the Attorney General shall, at the request of the Commission, bring an action for injunction in the name of the State of Illinois and the court shall issue an injunction for such period, if any, as it determines necessary to protect the public interest under this Act until a public agency can acquire the property by purchase or through the exercise of the right of eminent domain or enter an agreement with the owner in accordance with the rules.

Section 28. A registered area or tract therein may be acquired in fee or lesser interest at any time by the Commission or by any other public agency having authority to acquire and approval of the Commission. Except as otherwise provided in Section 29 of this Act, the time of determination of the value of the property to be acquired shall be the date of the actual acquisition if the property is acquired by purchase or the date of the filing of a petition for condemnation if the property is acquired through the exercise of the right of eminent domain, rather than the date when the notice of registration of the area was recorded.

Section 29. When a property within a registered area is acquired by a public agency, no damages shall be allowed for any construction, alteration or addition in violation of this Act and no increase of value shall be allowed for any change in the status of the property resulting from any action taken in violation of this Act.

Section 30. Except as otherwise provided in this Act or as agreed to by the Commission, no negotiation, attempt or other action to acquire land by the Commission or other public agency shall be construed to authorize any action prohibited under this Act or to render void the restrictions applying to a registered area or a tract therein.

Section 31. All public agencies shall recognize the protected status of registered areas and shall avoid to the greatest extent possible the undertaking of any action which would affect a registered area and require a certificate of compliance.

Section 32. Before the Commission takes an action pertaining to one or more specific areas that requires public notice and the opportunity for any person to be heard, it shall provide such notice and opportunity in the following manner: It shall publish a notice of the proposed action and of the opportunity for a public meeting to be held at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or

counties within which the area is located. It shall also give or mail the notice to the Governor, all persons shown on the county assessment list as owners or taxpaying agents of owners of tracts within the area to be affected by the proposed action, all persons who have requested notice of proposed actions concerning the area or proposed actions of the Commission in general and all organizations and agencies it knows to be directly concerned with the preservation of natural areas in general or the specific area. The notice shall locate, with or without legal description, the area affected, set forth the substance of the proposed action and state the availability of additional information. If within 45 days after publication of the notice any person with a bona fide interest requests in writing to the Commission that it hold a public meeting on the proposed action, the Commission shall call a meeting and give notice of it in the same manner as it gave notice of the proposed action and of the opportunity for a public meeting to be held. The notice shall include the time, place and purpose of the meeting. The meeting shall be held in or near the county or counties where the area is located and shall be not less than 45 nor more than 90 days after publication and giving of the notice. The meeting shall be conducted and heard by one or more persons designated by the Commission. Any interested person or his representative may be heard at the meeting or may submit written comments to the Commission prior to or within 30 days after the meeting or within 45 days after publication of notice of opportunity for a public meeting to be held. The meeting shall be conducted as provided in the rules. The Commission shall consider the statements submitted in writing or at a public meeting in determining its decision concerning the proposed action.

Section 33. The Commission may appoint an advisory committee for any nature preserve or registered area or for each regional group of such areas. Such committee shall

include representation of persons who reside within the county in which the area occurs. The advisory committee shall have the opportunity to review, and advise the Commission on, drafts of the plan and any amendments thereto in the course of their preparation and prior to adoption by the Commission. Also, it shall observe and review, and have the opportunity to advise the Commission on, the management and protection of the area, applications for certificates of compliance and public meetings relating to the area.

Upon petition of any 10 persons, the Commission shall appoint an advisory committee for a nature preserve or registered area or shall dissolve any advisory committee that has not met or reported to it for a period of 12 months or more and appoint a new committee to take its place.

The Commission may adopt rules for the establishment and operation of advisory committees.

Section 34. The dedication or registration of an area or any other action taken by the Commission under this Act shall not void or replace any protective status under law which an area would have were it not a dedicated or registered area, the protective provisions of this Act being supplemental thereto.

Section 35. Any public agency administering a nature preserve or registered area shall preserve it in accordance with this Act and the rules. No action shall be taken on a nature preserve or registered area in public ownership except in conformance with the rules or with the approval of the Commission. "Action" is defined as is "action affecting a registered area" in Section 25.

Section 36. The purposes of nature preserves and of preserving natural areas are included within public park, conservation and recreation purposes. Any area designated for park conservation or recreation purposes may be dedicated as a nature preserve or may be registered. Any funds appropriated or otherwise available for use by the Department

for park, conservation or recreation purposes, if not otherwise restricted, may be used by the Department, or allocated by the Department to the Commission to be used, on, in relation to or to acquire land for, nature preserves or registered areas.

Section 37. This Act does not limit or prohibit any county, township or municipality from enacting or enforcing more restrictive building, zoning, subdivision or other regulations. This Act does not provide public access to private land without agreement of the owner thereof.

Section 38. The Attorney General, or the State's Attorney of the county where a nature preserve or registered area is located, may, upon his own motion or upon request of the Commission, institute a civil action for an injunction, or other appropriate legal action, to restrain violations of this Act or of any rule. In such a proceeding the court shall determine whether a violation has been committed and shall enter such orders as it considers necessary to remove the effects of any violation and to prevent such violation from continuing or from being renewed in the future.

Section 39. Any person who violates this Act or any rules shall be liable to a civil penalty of not to exceed $10,000 for such violation, but no penalty under this Section shall exceed the cost of restoring the nature preserve or registered area to its condition prior to the commencement of the violation.

Section 40. Any person who violates, or causes to be violated by his employee or agent, any provision of this Act or any rule established pursuant thereto is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. When the violation is a continuing offense, each day shall be considered a separate violation. Any person who trespasses on private land in a registered area is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor. Enforcements under Sections 38, 39 and 40 may be concurrent or separate.

Section 41. All final administrative decisions of the

Commission under this Act are subject to judicial review under the "Administrative Review Act", approved May 8, 1945, as now or hereafter amended, and the rules adopted pursuant thereto. The term "administrative decision" is defined as in Section 1 of the "Administrative Review Act".

Section 42. Section 4 of "An Act in relation to the transfer of interests in real estate by units of local government or school districts", approved July 2, 1925, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

(Ch. 30, par. 158a)

Sec. 4. Any municipality shall have the power upon resolution passed by a two-thirds vote of the members of its legislative body then holding office, to transfer all of the right, title and interest held by it immediately prior to such transfer, in and to any real estate, whether located within or without such municipality, to the State of Illinois, for any authorized purpose of state government, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by the transferor municipality and the State of Illinois, and the State of Illinois is authorized to accept the title or interest in such real estate so conveyed; except that a majority vote of the members of such legislative body then holding office is sufficient for the dedication by any municipality of any area as a nature preserve as provided in Section 19 of the Natural Heritage Preservation Act ~~Section 2c of "An Act in relation to the acquisition, control, maintenance, improvement and protection of State parks and nature preserves", approved June 26, 1925, as amended~~. If such real estate is held by the transferor municipality subject to or limited by any restriction, the State of Illinois, by the Director of the Department of Public Works and Buildings or by the Director of any state department, or the Chairman or President of any commission, board or agency of the State vested by law with the power, duty or function of the State Government for which said property is to be used

by the State after its acquisition, may remove such restriction through purchase, agreement or condemnation. Any such condemnation proceedings shall be brought and maintained by the State of Illinois and shall conform, as nearly as may be, with the procedure provided by the Eminent Domain Act.

Section 43. Section 6a of "An Act to provide for the creation and management of forest preserve districts", approved June 27, 1913, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

(Ch. 57 1/2, par. 6a)

Sec. 6a. Every forest preserve district and the board thereof is empowered to designate areas as nature preserves within the Illinois System of Nature Preserves as provided in Section 19 of the Natural Heritage Preservation Act ~~2c of "An Act in relation to the acquisition, control, maintenance, improvement and protection of State parks and nature preserves", approved June 26, 1925, as amended~~, and to cooperate with the Illinois Natural Heritage Commission ~~Illinois Nature Preserves Commission~~ in matters relating to the purposes of this Act.

Section 44. Section 11 of the "Conservation District Act", approved August 16, 1963, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

(Ch. 57 1/2, par. 111)

Sec. 11. Every district shall consider the preservation of natural conditions and protection of flora and fauna as part of its principal purpose and to that end shall set aside a substantial portion of its land to remain in an essentially undisturbed condition.

A district is empowered to dedicate areas as nature preserves within the Illinois system of nature preserves as provided in Section 19 of the Natural Heritage Preservation Act ~~2c of "An Act in relation to the acquisition, control, maintenance, improvement and protection of State parks and nature preserves", approved June 26, 1925, as now or~~

~~hereafter amended~~, and to cooperate with the Illinois Natural Heritage Commission ~~Illinois Nature Preserves Commission~~ in matters relating to the purposes of this Act.

Section 45. Section 8-14 of "The Park District Code", approved July 8, 1947, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

(Ch. 105, par. 8-14)

Sec. 8-14. All Park Districts have the power to designate areas as nature preserves within the Illinois System of Nature Preserves as provided in Section 19 of the Natural Heritage Preservation Act ~~2c of "An Act in relation to the acquisition, control, maintenance, improvement and protection of State parks and nature preserves", approved June 26, 1925, as amended~~, and to cooperate with the Illinois Natural Heritage Commission ~~Illinois Nature Preserves Commission~~ in matters relating to the purposes of this Act.

Section 46. Section 2.13 of the "Regional Transportation Authority Act", approved December 12, 1973, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

(Ch. 111 2/3, par. 702.13)

Sec. 2.13. (a) The Authority may take and acquire possession by eminent domain of any property or interest in property which the Authority is authorized to acquire under this Act. The power of eminent domain may be exercised by ordinance of the Authority, and shall extend to all types of interests in property, both real and personal (including without limitation easements for access purposes to and rights of concurrent usage of existing or planned public transportation facilities), whether or not the property is public property or is devoted to public use and whether or not the property is owned or held by a public transportation agency, except as specifically limited by this Act.

(b) The Authority shall exercise the power of eminent domain granted in this Section in the manner provided in "An Act to provide for the exercise of the right of eminent

domain", approved April 10, 1872, as now or hereafter amended, except that the Authority may not exercise the authority provided in Sections 2.1 through 2.10 of that Act providing for immediate possession in such proceedings, and except that those provisions of Section 2 of that Act requiring prior approval of the Illinois Commerce Commission in certain instances shall apply to eminent domain proceedings by the Authority only as to any taking or damaging by the Authority of any real property of a railroad not used for public transportation or of any real property of other public utilities.

(c) The Authority may exercise the right of eminent domain to acquire public property only upon the concurrence of 2/3 of the then Directors. In any proceeding for the taking of public property by the Authority through the exercise of the power of eminent domain the venue shall be in the Circuit Court of the county in which the property is located. The right of eminent domain may be exercised over property used for public park purposes, for State Forest purposes or for forest preserve purposes only upon a written finding adopted by concurrence of 2/3 of the then Directors, after public hearing and a written study done for the Authority, that such taking is necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Act, that no feasible alternatives to such taking exist, and that the advantages to the public from such taking exceed the disadvantages to the public of doing so. In any proceeding for the exercise of the right of eminent domain for the taking by the Authority of property used for public park, State forest, or forest preserve purposes, the court shall not order the taking of such property unless it has reviewed and concurred in the findings required of the Authority by this paragraph. No property designated as a nature preserve pursuant to Section 19 of the Natural Heritage Preservation Act ~~"An Act in relation to the acquisition, control, maintenance, improvement and protection~~

~~of State parks and nature preserves", approved June 26, 1925, as now or hereafter amended,~~ may be acquired in eminent domain by the Authority.

Section 47. Section 20 of the "Revenue Act of 1939", filed May 17, 1939, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

(Ch. 120, par. 501)

Sec. 20. Except in counties with a population of more than 200,000 which classify real property for purposes of taxation, real property shall be valued as follows:

(1) Each tract or lot of real property shall be valued at 33 1/3% of its fair cash value.

(2) Each taxable leasehold estate shall be valued at 33 1/3% of its fair cash value.

(3) Each building or structure which is located on the right of way of any canal, railroad or other company leased or granted to another company or person for a term of years, shall be valued at 33 1/3% of its fair cash value.

(4) Any real property on which there is a coal or other mine, or stone or other quarry, shall be valued at 33 1/3% of its fair cash value.

(5) In the assessment of real estate incumbered by public easement, any depreciation occasioned by such easement shall be deducted in the valuation of such property. Any property dedicated as a nature preserve within the Illinois System of Nature Preserves as provided in Section 19 of the Natural Heritage Preservation Act ~~2c of "An Act in relation to the acquisition, control, maintenance, improvement and protection of State parks and nature preserves", approved June 26, 1925, as now or hereafter amended~~, for the purposes of this paragraph, is encumbered by a public easement.

The provisions of this Section are subject to the provisions of and are modified by Sections 20a-1 through 20a-3 and Sections 21a-1 through 21a-8 of this Act as amended.

Section 48. Section 2 of "An Act to punish fraud or extravagance in the expenditure of moneys appropriated for public improvements", approved May 28, 1877, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

(Ch. 127, par. 132.52)

Sec. 2. Any person or persons, commissioner or commissioners, or other officer or officers, entrusted with the construction or repair of any public work or improvement, as set forth in Section 1, who shall expend or cause to be expended upon such public work or improvement, the whole or any part of the moneys appropriated therefor, or who shall commence work, or in any wise authorize work to be commenced, thereon, without first having obtained a title, by purchase, donation, condemnation or otherwise, to all lands needed for such public work or improvement, running to the People of the State of Illinois; said title to be approved by the Attorney General, and his approval certified by the Secretary of State and placed on record in his office, shall be deemed guilty of a Class A misdemeanor, provided, however, that in the case of a fee simple title or easements acquired by the State for highway right-of-way, the acquisition of rights or easements of access, crossing, light, air or view to, from or over a Freeway, vested in abutting property, or easements for other purposes, when the consideration to be paid therefor does not exceed $2500, the approval of the Attorney General, shall not be required and the State Comptroller may draw a warrant in payment of such consideration without requiring such approval of title by the Attorney General.

This Section does not apply to any otherwise lawful expenditures for the construction, completion, remodeling, maintenance and equipment of buildings and other facilities made in connection with and upon premises owned by the Illinois Building Authority.

<u>This Section does not apply to expenditures made pursuant to Section 8 of the Natural Heritage Preservation Act.</u>

(Ch. 105, rep. pars. 465a, 466a through 466d)

Section 49. Sections 1a, 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d of "An Act in relation to acquisition, control, maintenance, improvement and protection of State parks and nature preserves", approved June 26, 1925, as amended, are repealed.

(Ch. 105, rep. pars. 501 through 508)

Section 50. "An Act relating to the creation of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and defining its powers and duties", approved August 28, 1963, as amended, is repealed.

(Ch. 105, rep. pars. 511 through 517)

Section 51. "An Act in relation to the designation of abandoned cemeteries as nature preserves", approved September 5, 1975, is repealed.

Section 52. All actions heretofore effected under the provisions of the Acts repealed by Sections 49, 50 and 51 of this Act, including adoption of rules, policies, and resolutions by the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, and dedication of areas as nature preserves, shall, except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, continue in effect and without impairment or interruption.

Section 53. This Act takes effect upon its becoming a law.

Illinois Nature Preserves Commission
Richard Thom, Field Representative
February 15, 1977

Report on Myer Woods, Bureau County, Illinois

Myer Woods is a 20-acre old-growth woodlot located about seven miles southeast of Princton in Bureau County in the East Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 21, Township 16 North, Range 10 East of the 4th Principal Meridian. It is a level till plain with a few narrow ravines. The soils belong to the Pilot-LaMont-Dickinson-Plainfield Association which are dark and light colored, somewhat excessively drained, nearly level to moderately steep soils formed in waterlaid and windworked silts and sands.

The woods is composed of large, old trees and shows no direct evidence of logging and no signs of grazing. The black oaks are larger and more numerous than the white oaks. The woods is representative of dry-mesic forest of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. The ravines have mesophytic species. The Illinois Natural Areas Inventory studied Myer Woods in the Pilot Study in 1975. In a memo to the Nature Preserves Commission, Jack White described it as a "best-of-its-kind old-growth woodlot".

In 1959 the Myer family deeded the property to the Princeton Park District to be used "as a forest preserve" and "to be kept as close to its natural state as practical". The Princeton Park District is considering the dedication of Myer Woods as a nature preserve as the best means of preserving the woods and fulfilling the wishes of the grantors.

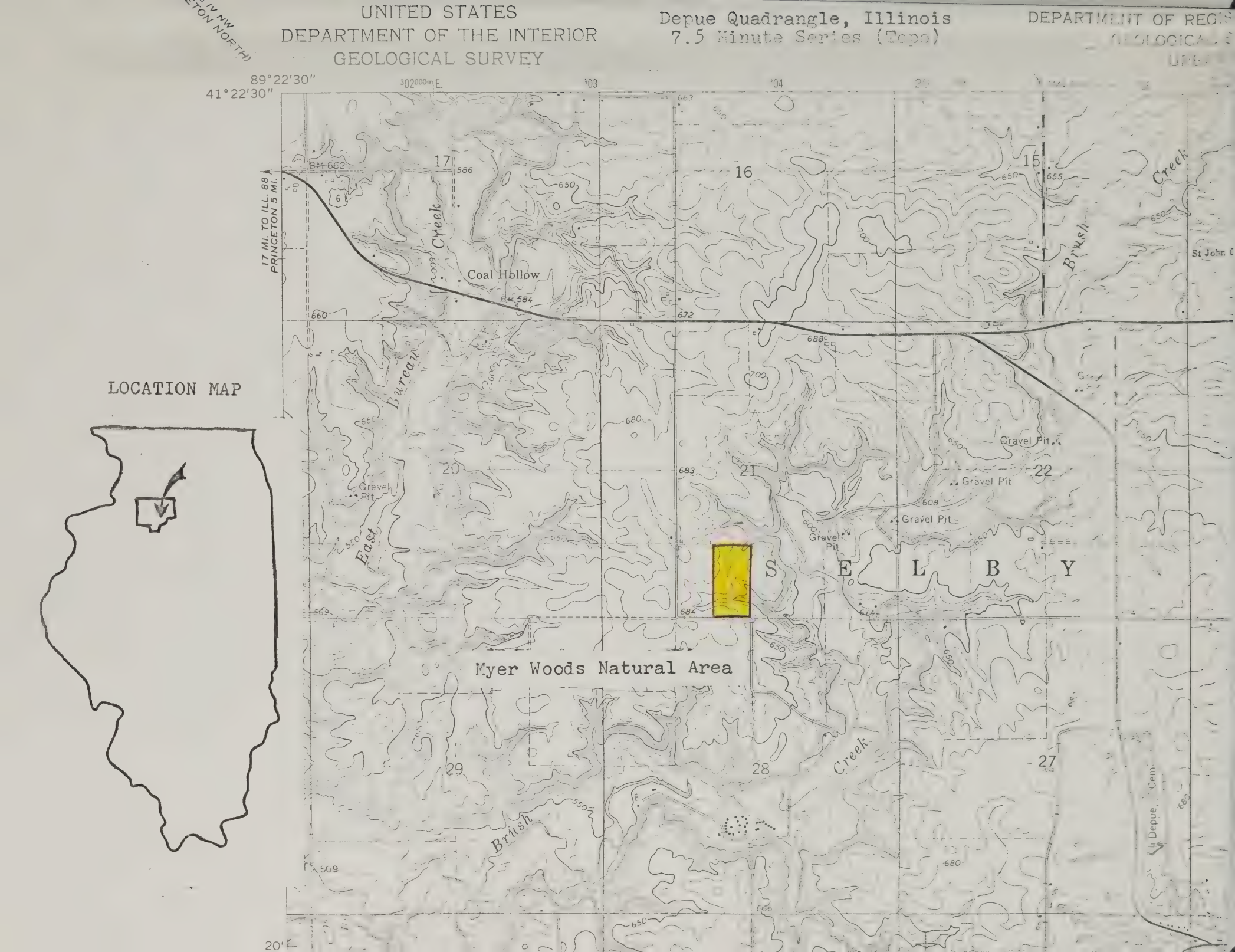
Since the woods was conveyed to the Park District no development has taken place on the area. The District would like to manage the woods as a nature preserve. The primary management activity will be the development of a trail so that the public will be able to enjoy the area. There are no apparent management problems with the area.

It is recommended that the Commission give Myer Woods preliminary approval for dedication as a nature preserve.

References:

White, John, Illinois Natural Areas Inventory memorandum to George B. Fell dated September 8, 1975, subject Bureau County Natural Areas.

Thompson, J.A. (undated), Soil Associates of Bureau County, Illinois, Soil Conservation Service.


UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Depue Quadrangle, Illinois
7.5 Minute Series (Topo)
89°22'30"
41°22'30"
LOCATION MAP
17 MI. TO ILL. 88
PRINCETON 5 MI.
Coal Hollow
East Bureau Creek
Brush Creek
Gravel Pit
Myer Woods Natural Area
S E L B Y
16
17
20
21
22
27
28
29

DEDICATION OF A NATURE PRESERVE

MYER WOODS

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the Princeton Park District, a municipal corporation, of Princeton, Illinois, being the owner thereof does hereby dedicate the following real property in Bureau County, Illinois as a nature preserve:

> Lot 3 of the East Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 21, Township 16 North, Range 10 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Bureau County, Illinois, according to the Plat thereof recorded November 25, 1867 in Book A of Plats, page 32 as #44039, being the East Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 21, Township 16 North, Range 10 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, containing 20 acres, more or less.

The property hereinabove described is dedicated for the purposes, and shall be held, maintained, and used, as provided for Nature Preserves in "An Act in relation to the acquisition, control, maintenance, improvement and protection of State parks and nature preserves", approved June 26, 1925, as heretofore amended and "An Act relating to the creation of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and defining its powers and duties", approved August 28, 1963, as heretofore amended. Said property is further dedicated for the purposes, and shall be held, maintained, and used, as provided for Nature Preserves in any amendment to said Acts enacted hereafter, but no such amendment shall alter the exclusive commitment of said land to the preservation of natural conditions for the purposes specified in said Acts as of the date of this dedication.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this _____day of_____, 19____.

APPROVED:

_____
Governor

APPROVED:

_____
Director, Department of Conservation

APPROVED:

_____
Chairman, Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

ATTEST:

_____
Secretary, Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

PRINCETON PARK DISTRICT

_____
Chairman

ATTEST:

_____
Secretary

February 1, 1977

Dr. Dale Birkenholz
Department of Biological Sciences
Illinois State University
Normal, IL 61761

Dear Dr. Birkenholz:

As you are probably aware, the Illini archery range located on dedicated nature preserve grounds at Starved Rock State Park has been the subject of some degree of controversy since the early 1970's.

The situation at the moment is this: The Illini Field Archers feel that by virtue of the fact they have utilized the subject tract for twenty-one years, they should be granted an exclusion from the articles dedicating this area as a nature preserve. They feel that they have not been given "due process" in that no appeal has been made to the Commission.

Recently, the Department removed the archery facilities at the range on the orders of Director McGuire. On February 1, 1977 I met with members of the club to discuss this, alternate sites, and the future.

It appears that the alternate site proposed at our meeting was not satisfactory. The Illini Archers indicated to me that they would formally like to appeal to the Commission for an amendment to the articles of dedication. It is my opinion from reading the Revised Statutes of the State that their appeal should be heard.

Therefore, I am requesting that this be placed on the agenda for Friday, February 25, 1977. Since I will have to leave

the meeting at 2:30 that afternoon, I would request that this item be included early in the meeting. Please contact me as to the time so I can contact the club representative.

I will be glad to discuss this with you at your leisure.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Tamminga
Associate Director
for Land & Historic Sites

CLT/mf

cc: George Fell
John Schwegman

January 6, 1976

Mr. Robert D. Fulmer, Chairman
Illini Field Archers
524 First Street
LaSalle, IL 61301

Dear Mr. Fulmer:

I am writing to advise you that, pursuant to my letter of December 1, 1976, materials of the Illini Field Archers were removed from the nature preserve at Starved Rock State Park on January 6, 1977. These materials have been stored at the park.

The materials, or information concerning them, can be obtained from Starved Rock Site Superintendent Jon Blume.

Sincerely,

John McGuire

JM/mlw

cc: Jon Blume

JOHN McGUIRE
DIRECTOR

Illinois Department of Conservation
life and land together

WILLIAM A. WATTS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

605 STATE OFFICE BUILDING • 400 SOUTH SPRING STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62706
CHICAGO OFFICE – ROOM 100, 160 NO. LASALLE 60601

December 1, 1976

Mr. Robert D. Fulmer, Chairman
Illini Field Archers
524 First Street
LaSalle, Illinois 61301

Dear Mr. Fulmer:

Over the last several years, the Illinois Department of Conservation has been engaged in negotiations with your organization relative to ending your present use of a portion of Starved Rock Nature Preserve as a field archery range. Though we have acted in good faith, even to the extent of offering to develop an alternate public range on other lands, we have been unable to resolve this problem. At this time, I would like to briefly review the major steps in our previous negotiations and outline what we feel are possible alternatives and options to finally resolve this situation.

A review of our files pertaining to this matter reveals the following actions and correspondence to date:

July 30, 1970	The State of Illinois purchased the William C. Currie farm, including that portion leased to the Illini Field Archers. The lease was not binding on the State of Illinois after its acquisition of the land.
March 27, 1971	At the request of the State of Illinois, William C. Currie notified the president of the Illini Field Archers of the termination of their lease effective February 28, 1972.
May 7, 1973	Since no effort was made by Illini Field Archers to vacate the property, Ronald D. Johnson, Superintendent of the Division of Parks and Memorials, wrote Mr. Dale McCloud, as president of the club, requesting termination of the club's usage of the property. Mr. Johnson pointed out in his letter that the previous lease was not binding on the State.

Mr. McCloud responded in writing to Mr. Johnson, outlining various meetings and events scheduled during the remainder of 1973, and requesting that the club be allowed to use the range for the rest of the year in order to meet their obligations.

May 15, 1976 — Mr. Johnson responded by granting permission for the club to continue use of the area for their previously scheduled events during 1973. Mr. Johnson suggested the second Sunday in September, 1973, as a final date for termination of the club's usage of the area.

It was determined in May, 1973, that the archery range and buildings were not located on land previously owned by William C. Currie. Rather, they were located on adjoining land owned by the State of Illinois which had been dedicated as a state nature preserve on May 15, 1967.

August 12, 1973 — Mr. Johnson and Mr. John Schwegman, Chief Natural Areas Specialist for the Department of Conservation met with officers and members of the Illini Field Archers.

At the meeting, it was pointed out that the club's facilities were not located on land that had been leased from Mr. William Currie, and that the club had never had a lease for the area on which the facilities were built. The club representatives argued that as a valid outdoor recreation club, they should be allowed to remain on the land because it was dedicated for park and recreation purposes. The club indicated a desire that the land be reclassified by the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission to remove it from dedicated status as a nature preserve.

August 28, 1973 — Mr. Johnson received a letter from Patrick Cawley, Attorney at Law, representing the Illini Field Archers Mr. Cawley requested a formal lease for the area occupied by the archery range.

September 7, 1973 — Mr. Johnson responded to Mr. Cawley's letter informing him that no lease could be executed without the area first being undedicated as a state nature preserve. Mr. Johnson indicated that this item had been suggested for inclusion in the agenda of the next Illinois Nature Preserve Commission meeting.

November 5, 1973	Dr. Willard D. Klimstra, Chairman of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission wrote Anthony T. Dean, Director of the Illinois Department of Conservation. The commission has passed a resolution on October 3, 1973, which reaffirmed its position that the area was worthy of dedication as a state nature preserve and recommended terminating use of the area as an archery range.
January 3, 1974	Mr. Johnson wrote Mr. McCloud confirming the status of the area as a state nature preserve. His letter also detailed the Statutes and Administra Orders pertaining to establishment and managemen of nature preserves and requested, once again, that the Illini Field Archers vacate the area.
January 22, 1974	A second meeting was requested to discuss the archery range situation. Those in attendance included: Director Dean, various members of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, and representatives of the Illini Field Archers, including Mr. Cawley. Mr. Cawley said that the club would vacate the area if a public range could be provided elsewhere in the park. Director Dean stated that the request would be considered and requested specifications for a championship field archery range.
February 8, 1974	You wrote Director Dean and provided the requested specifications as well as supplemental information regarding the Illini Field Archers. Also included was a check for $180.00 which you indicated was payment for rental of the property during 1972, 1973, and 1974.
February 21, 1974	Director Dean wrote thanking you for the information provided and indicating that departmental staff were working on the feasibility of developing an alternative range. Director Dean returned the $180.00 check, pointing out that the Department did not recognize any valid leases between the Department and the Illini Field Archers.
March 28, 1974	Director Dean wrote to Mr. McCloud indicating that an alternate site had been selected and requesting that Mr. McCloud meet with Departmental personnel regarding design and layout of a new range.

January 20, 1975

You wrote Director Dean saying that while you were neither accepting nor rejecting the proposed alternate site, you would rather settle the matter in court. At this time, you suggested that we serve an eviction notice on you as chairman of the "Save our Range" committee and issue a warrant for your arrest after your failure to comply.

Though this is a brief summary of negotiations relating to the archery range, I believe that it covers the main points that have been discussed to date. I feel that the record clearly shows that we in the Department have made every effort to settle this matter in a way that would be acceptable to the Illini Field Archers and would meet our statutory responsibilities toward management of the Starved Rock Nature Preserve. We regret that the Illinois Field Archers have not agreed with alternatives we have suggested. Therefore, I have no alternative but to inform you that you are to vacate the area within 30 days. I would hasten to point out, however, that we will offer an alternate site for a range in the immediate area.

I will ask the staff at Starved Rock to offer you all possible assistance in removing the buildings, targets and other property to the alternate site if you wish, or to a place of storage if that alternative is unacceptable. If at the end of the grace period, you have not willingly vacated the site, I will direct the staff to remove the structures and other properties to our storage area. In either case, all due care and caution will be exercised in removing your property, though the Department of Conservation can accept no responsibility for possible damage.

Sincerely,

John McGuire

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: File

From: John Schwegman JS.

Date: January 25, 1974

SUBJECT: Summary of Meeting on Archery Range Removal at Starved Rock Nature Preserve (January 22, 1974)

Those present included Director Dean; Representatives Von Boeckman, Fennessey and Kriegsman; Dr. John Warnock; George Fell; Edmund Thornton; Outdoor writer Bart Crabb; Attorney Patrick Cawley representing the Illini Field Archers Inc.; Robert Fulmer - spokesman for the Illini Field Archers; Mike Flyer - world champion field archer from Pekin; about 25 members of the archery club; Ranger Jack Querciagrossa and myself.

The proceedings were recorded by a court clerk provided by the club.

After Director Dean opened the meeting, Mr. Cawley made a statement of the clubs position. He indicated that they had been tenants of the land for some time and that they had paid for the lease from Mr. Currie. Director Dean asked if they would provide records of their payments since they claimed to have paid in 1972 after we had acquired the Currie land. They agreed to send this to the Director. Mr. Cawley also indicated that the club had cooperated with the Department in control of Dutch elm disease by cutting infected trees on the archery range at the request of the Department.* In conclusion, he stated that the club would voluntarily vacate the present range if a public range were developed elsewhere on the park.

Director Dean stated that their request for a public range would be considered. He requested that the club supply him with specifications for a championship range and they agreed to do this. He stated that we would give them our decision by late February.

Representative Von Boeckman requested that the club be allowed to use the present archery range until the new range is completed. Director Dean stated this would be considered and they would have an answer by late February.

Representative Fennessey stated that he would introduce legislation in support of the new archery range if needed.

George Fell asked if the club had attempted to purchase a site of their own. They stated that they only had $3,000 in their treasury and could not afford the high land prices in La Salle County.

* Tree cutting consisted of removal of dead elms along the lane. (GLF)

Bart Crabb stated that the archery range area may no longer qualify as a nature preserve because of the disturbance caused by the range. Mr. Fell countered that nature preserves need not be 100% virgin in quality.

Both Mr. Cawley and Representative Von Boeckman stated that they considered the nature preserve dedication as questionable because of the restrictive clause in the deed which requires that the land be used for Park and Recreation purposes only.

Mr. Mike Flyer of Pekin was introduced. He has just recently won the world field archery championship in England. He stated that the field archery course we are attempting to remove from the Nature Preserve is one of the finest in Illinois.

cc: Director Dean
Ron Johnson
Gene De Turk
George Fell
Lee Osborn

INPC 62
Item 18

Geo.B. Fell
2/15/77

Memo re archery range site on Starved Rock Nature Preserve

The land that was occupied by the archery range was donated to the State in 1944 by the Blow Real Estate Trust. The Trustee's Deed includes the condition that the property "will always be used by the State of Illinois for park and recreational purposes and for no other purpose or purposes whatever, which said restrictive covenant shall run with the land".

Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

MEMBERS

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Cooperative Wildlife Research
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, Illinois 62901
618/453-2875

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Chicago, Illinois 60637
312/363-6062

DR. JOHN E. WARNOCK
Department of
Biological Sciences
Western Illinois University
Macomb, Illinois 61455
309/295-5132

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

GEORGE B. FELL
819 North Main Street
Rockford, Illinois 61103
815/964-6666

November 5, 1973

Mr. Anthony T. Dean, Director
Department of Conservation
State Office Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Director Dean:

The Nature Preserves Commission has asked that I convey to you the following resolution adopted on October 3, 1973 at its 49th meeting:

> The Nature Preserves Commission reaffirms its position that the portion of Starved Rock Nature Preserve occupied by an archery range is worthy of nature preserve status and that the Department of Conservation should terminate its use as an archery range.

We have been concerned about this private occupancy of part of the Starved Rock area since 1967 when the nature preserve was established. Initially, the Department deferred action pending State acquisition of the adjoining Currie farm. With this adjoining land now in State ownership, we feel the time has come to terminate occupancy by the archery club.

The area occupied by the archery club is a valuable part of one of the finest nature preserves in Illinois and its use as an archery range should be terminated as incompatible with the preservation of natural conditions and contrary to the rules for management of nature preserves. Moreover, we feel that the appropriation of State park land by a private club is contrary to the public interest and should not be allowed. We urge you to take positive action to correct this situation.

Sincerely,

W D Klimstra

Willard D. Klimstra
Chairman

STATE OF ILLINOIS

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Ron Johnson

From: John Schwegman J.S.

Date: July 26, 1973

SUBJECT: Natural Quality of Area at Starved Rock Occupied by Archery Range

The natural Area Staff has visited and evaluated the nature preserve at Starved Rock several times. This week one of my staff members re-examined the area occupied by the archery range and his evaluations only serves to confirm our feelings toward the situation.

This preserve is one of our best areas in terms of diversity of habitat and presence of rare or unusual flora. The habitats range from dry upland woods to mesic forested ravines with bedrock outcrops occurring along cliff edges. Although the area occupied by the archery range certainly does not include the bulk of the preserve, it lies in a critical area and does include several important features of the area.

The archery range is situated in an upland woods that is dissected by two ravines and is bordered on the east by one of the most scenic ravines in the preserve. The acreage, of a roughly rectangular area that includes all of the various trails that make up the range, is about 35 acres. In the south part of the range is a mowed area, this apparently serves as a center for the range from which various trails radiate out to the east, north, and west. These trails occupy a significant part of the upland woods and cross both ravines, one several times.

The upland woods consists of a second growth forest of White Oak, Black Oak, Red Oak, and Shagbark Hickory with the largest trees between one and two feet in diameter. The understory is typical for a dry upland woods with many characteristic dry site herbaceous plants, unfortunately several weedy shrubs are also present. However, this is the largest tract of upland woods in the preserve and its value lies in the diversity it adds to the area and the occurrence of unusual plants in the vicinity of the trails. The rare Green Bracted Orchid occurs with Lady Slipper Orchids in an upland site only about 60 feet from one of the trails at the east edge of the range. This same trail terminates at a point 50 feet from the edge of a sand stone ravine of high natural quality.

The ravines that are crossed by the archery range trails are shallow with no bedrock and support a more mesic forest than the uplands. The forest is second growth with a few scattered older trees. Trees present which are not common in the upland forest include Sugar Maple and Basswood. The understory is rich, especially near the ravine bottoms where Skunk Cabbage and Interrupted Fern are common. Yellow Lady Slipper orchids are abundant on the slopes and are common along the trails.

In addition to the good diversity of the site and uncommon plants present, the archery range also lies at the point we would like to develop as the access to the preserve. This site is centrally located and already has a gravel entrance road. Our parking lot would be constructed in the field at the end of the road adjacent to the woods.

I might also add that the present use of the site for an archery range is causing some disturbance to the site. In places, some of the mowed trails are more than 20 feet wide and eliminates a good percentage of the forest. Many signs are nailed to trees, allowing an entrance for pathogens. Erosion is a problem on the steeper slopes. At one point, water has washed soil down a steep trail and partly covers a small trail bridge accross a small stream.

JS:mr

A. Gesterfield
R. Norbut

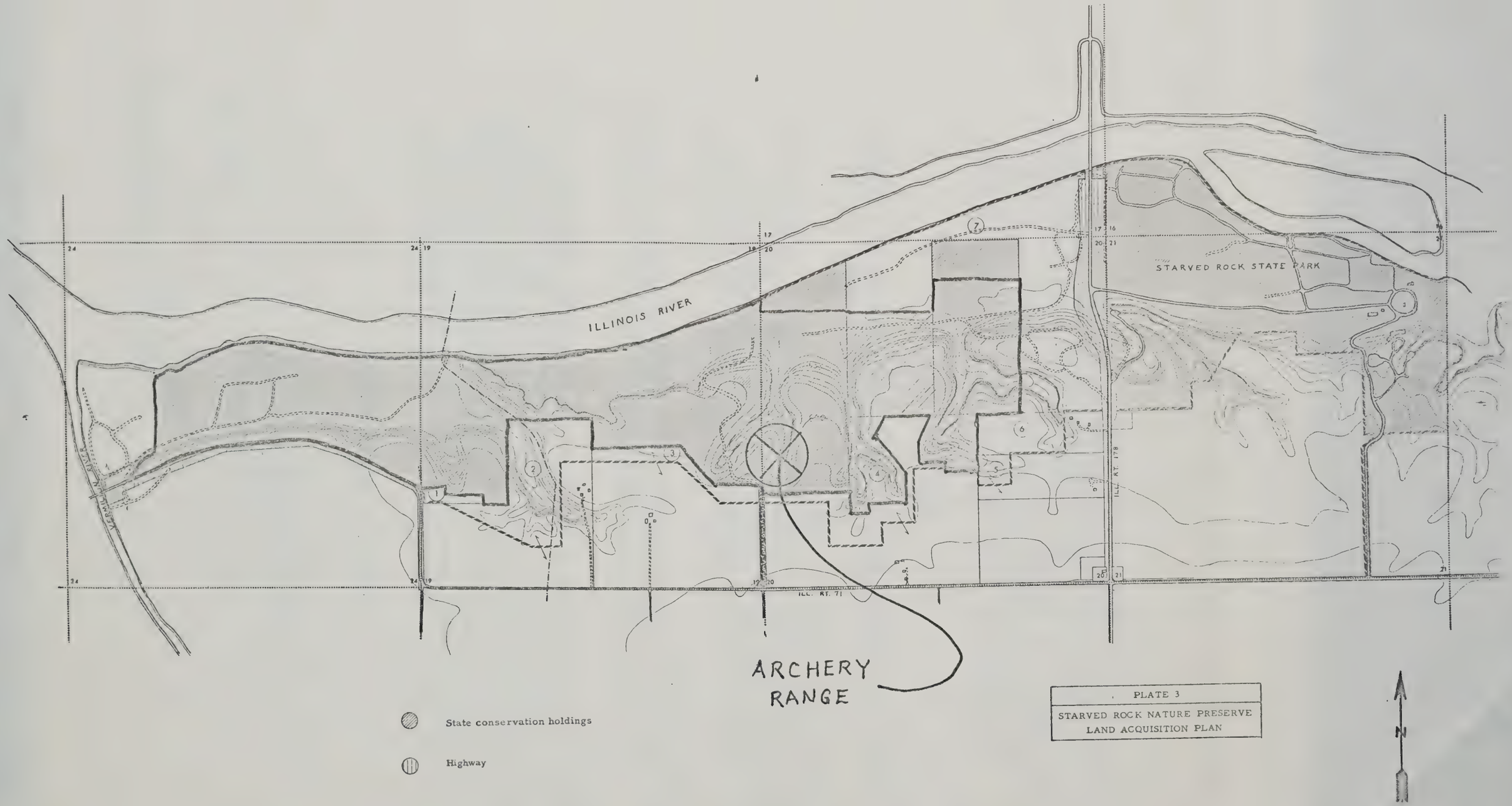


PLATE 3

STARVED ROCK NATURE PRESERVE
LAND ACQUISITION PLAN

N

Scale: 3 in. = 1 mi.

1968

Illinois Nature Preserves Commission
Richard H. Thom, Field Representative
January 5, 1977

INPC 62
ITEM 19

NATURE PRESERVE POTENTIAL OF THE OAK VALLEY EAGLE SANCTUARY ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The National Wildlife Federation in cooperation with other organizations is acquiring several hundred acres of land along the Mississippi River in Rock Island County for a winter sactuary of the bald eagle. Negotiations for the purchase of several of the tracts have already been completed, and the acquisition of the remaining tracts is being pursued. As envisioned, the sanctuary will preserve one of the best eagle roost sites on the Mississippi River in a region where few alternate roost sites exist. The use of the sanctuary as critical habitat by the bald eagle is its most significant natural feature.

In addition to the area's importance as an eagle roost, portions of the proposed sanctuary are of high natural quality and represent the mesic ravine forests of the Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Natural Division of Illinois.

About 120 acres of the proposed sanctuary should be considered as potential nature preserve to preserve the habitat of the bald eagle and a representative natural forest community. An additional 60-70 acres is potential dedicated buffer to the nature preserve. Additional acreage may qualify as dedicated buffer if its location or topography is critical to the protection of the roosting bald eagles.

It is recommended that suitable areas of the proposed sanctuary be considered for dedication as an Illinois nature preserve upon completion of acquisition.

LOCATION

The proposed Oak Valley Eagle Sanctuary is located in Sections 9 and 10, T18N, R1E (Hampton Township), Rock Island County, Illinois (Sylvis and Port Byron U.S. Topographic Quadrangles). East Moline, Illinois lies about four miles to the southwest, and Clinton, Iowa lies about 30 miles to the North. Illinois Route 84 lies between the preserve and the Mississippi River. The bluffs of the sanctuary overlook Lock and Dam 14, an important eagle feeding area. Illiniwek Forest Preserve is less than one-half mile southwest of the sanctuary.

CHARACTER OF AREA

The proposed sanctuary contains river bluffs, steep ravines, ridges, and small creeks characteristic of the Middle Mississippi Border Natural Division. The steep, forested ravines provide winter shelter for 40-60 bald eagles which use the area as a night roost. Migrating eagles also use the area as a transient roost while passing through.

Most of the proposed sanctuary is covered with native forest vegetation over loess soils. Age, condition, and natural quality of the forested portions vary. The age of the woodland ranges from young second growth to mature second growth. The woods of highest natural quality centers around the principal eagle roost area (see map) and includes about 50 acres. The upper slopes and ridges are dominated by white oak (Quercus alba), red oak (Quercus rubra), and black oak (Quercus velutina). The canopy trees average from 12" to 24" diameter in these upland woods. The lower slopes and ravine bottoms are dominated by red oak, white oak, and ash (Fraxinus). Other canopy trees include honey locust (Gleditsia triacanthos), sugar maple (Acer saccharum), shagbark hickory (Carya ovata), hackberry (Celtus occidentalis), black cherry (Prunus serotina), black walnut (Juglans nigra), and American elm (Ulmus americana). The dominant trees average from 12" - 30" diameter with some red oaks in the 30" - 40" diameter range.

Some of the understory species are sugar maple, black cherry, and ironwood (Ostrya virginiana). The forest has a rich diversity of spring ephemerals including bloodroot (Sanguinaria canadensis), trillium (Trillium recurvatum), Dutchman's breeches (Dicentra cucullaria), jack-in-the-pulpit (Arisaema triphyllum), trout lily (Erythronium americanum), several violets (Viola sp.), waterleaf (Hydrophyllum virginianum), toothwort (Dentaria laciniata), hepatica (Hepatica acutiloba), wild ginger (Asarum canadense), buttercup (Ranunculus sp.), bellwort (Uvularia grandiflora), and wood anemone (Anemone quinquefolia).

The remaining woodlands are of the same general type as those just described, but have been more severely influenced by past disturbances such as logging and grazing. Several acres in the Fritz 17-acre tract have been planted in Scotch pine (Pinus sylvestris). There is a mowed field on the 48-acre Spera tract. Portions of the Wainright 39.5-acre tract have been cleared of trees. Several old roads exist throughout the proposed sanctuary. An abandoned house exists on the Wainright 39.5 acre tract.

MANAGEMENT AND USE

The sanctuary should be managed to optimize its use as a bald eagle refuge. This will involve protecting the area from human intrusion during the months that the eagles are present.

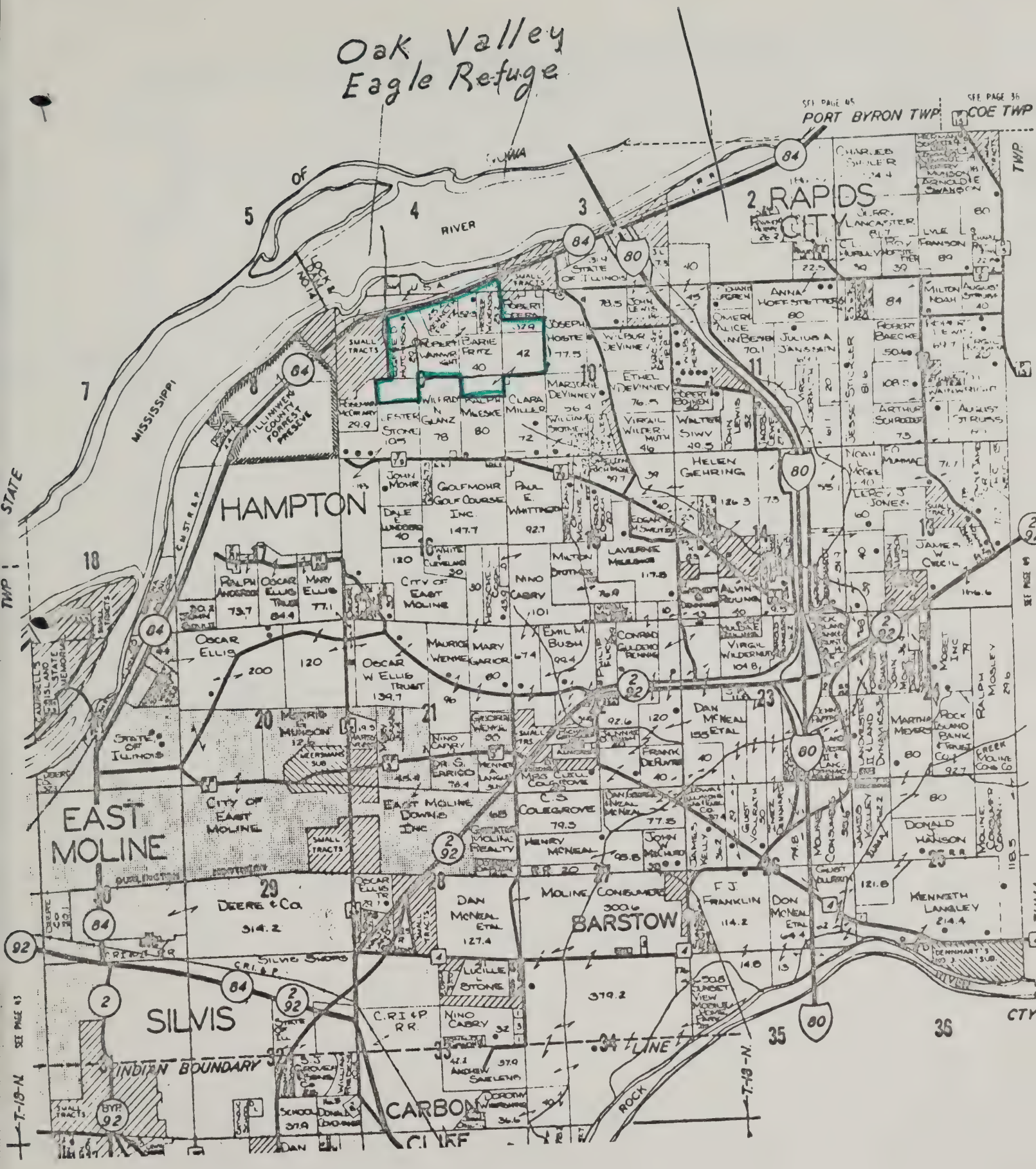
When the eagles are not present, during the spring, summer, and early fall, activities that are compatible with the preservation of the area could be allowed. These could include hiking, nature study, photography, and other activities that are allowed in nature preserves. Interpretive signs could explain the importance of the eagle sanctuary and the plight of the bald eagle to the public.

The sanctuary could also be used for ecological research and environmental education, as well as research to add to our knowledge of the bald eagle.

NATURE PRESERVE VALUES

The preservation of critical habitat of rare and endangered species is a primary objective of the Illinois nature preserve system. As critical habitat for our threatened national emblem, the proposed Oak Valley Eagle Sanctuary would be an important element in the long-term protection of this species. The sanctuary would become part of a much-needed system of preserved eagle winter habitat along the Mississippi River. Cedar Glen Eagle Roost Nature Preserve in Hancock County, Illinois, about 120 miles downriver from the proposed Oak Valley Sanctuary, is a dedicated Illinois nature preserve.

The great diversity and high natural quality of the ravine forests and the area's importance as a critical winter habitat for the bald eagle qualify the Oak Valley Eagle Sanctuary for consideration as an Illinois nature preserve. When the land acquisition has been completed, the owning agency and the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission should consider the dedication of suitable portions of the sanctuary.


Oak Valley
Eagle Refuge
PORT BYRON TWP
COE TWP
ROCK RIVER
MISSISSIPPI
RIVER
ILLINIWEK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE
HAMPTON
EAST MOLINE
SILVIS
CARBON CLIFF
BARSTOW
ROCK ISLAND
MOLINE
CITY OF EAST MOLINE
GOLFMOHR GOLF COURSE INC
EAST MOLINE DOWNS INC
MOLINE CONSUMERS
DEERE & Co
INDIAN BOUNDARY
STATE LINE
T-18-N
T-18-N
STATE OF ILLINOIS
C.R.I. & P. RR
CITY
TWP
TWP
STATE
SEE PAGE 35
SEE PAGE 36
SEE PAGE 33
SEE PAGE 33

OAK VALLEY EAGLE SANCTUARY

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS



ROUTE 84

ROAD

SPERA
48A

WAINWRIGHT

FRITZ
10A

ROAD

FRITZ
17A

PRINCIPAL EAGLE ROOST AREA

MEESKE
42A

WAINWRIGHT
39.5 A.

HUTCHISON
11.5A

FRITZ
40A

STONE

N
W E
S

POTENTIAL NATURE PRESERVE

POTENTIAL NATURE PRESERVE BUFFER

ALL BOUNDARIES AND ACREAGES ARE APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO ERROR.

SCALE: 1 INCH = 400 FT.

RH. THOM
JAN 77

JOHN McGUIRE
DIRECTOR

Illinois Department of Conservation
life and land together

WILLIAM A. WATTS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

605 STATE OFFICE BUILDING • 400 SOUTH SPRING STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62706
CHICAGO OFFICE – ROOM 100, 160 NO. LASALLE 60601

January 31, 1977

Mr. Elton Fawks
510 Island Avenue
East Moline, IL 61244

Dear Mr. Fawks:

Members of the Divisions of Wildlife Resources, Lands and Historic Sites, and Administrative Services have been discussing the Department's role in the Rock Island County, Oak Valley Eagle Sanctuary.

The Department of Conservation could accept management of this area if it were possible to dedicate it as a nature preserve. Access by the public would necessarily limited, especially in fall and winter when large numbers of eagles were present. I regret to say, however, that the Department of Conservation has not budgeted any funds for land acquisition at this site.

Please let us know the progress of this purchase by the National Wildlife Federation.

Sincerely yours,

John McGuire
DIRECTOR

JM:jw

Illinois Nature Preserves Commission
Gerald Paulson & Richard Thom,
Field Representatives
February 15, 1977

PROPOSAL FOR DEDICATION OF
SPRING GROVE CEMETERY PRAIRIE
WARREN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Location: Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 20, Township 12 North, Range 2 West of the 4th Principal Meridian, Spring Grove Township. One-eighth mile west of U.S. Highway 67, four miles south of Illinois Route 135 and six miles north of Monmouth on the north side of a gravel road.

Size: Approximately 1 acre.

Ownership and custody: Faculty members of Monmouth College are the Trustees of the cemetery and manage it for preservation of the prairie vegetation. The cemetery is not in active use, although some burials have occurred prior to 1935. The Biology Department manages the prairie, and it was because of its positive efforts that the cemetery came under the trusteeship of its faculty.

Natural features: Seventy-five percent of the prairie is covered with "Grade A", mesic prairie on deep black soil as evaluated by the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory. Indian grass and big bluestem are the dominant species with little bluestem and northern dropseed also found throughout the prairie. The prairie appears to be undisturbed except where graves have been dug or where woody species have invaded the edges. Fifty-five species of prairie plants have been recorded from the cemetery by Dr. Robert Betz of Northeastern Illinois University including New Jersey tea (Ceanothus americanus), rattlesnake master (Eryngium yuccifolium), compass plant (Silphium laciniatum), hoary puccoon (Lithospermum canescens), prairie gentian, (Gentiana puberula), milk vetch (Astragalus canadenses), prairie violet (Viola peditifida) and prairie lily (Lilium philidelphicum). The northeast and southeast corners of the cemetery are being invaded by sumac and other woody species which have reduced the diversity of the prairie species due to shading.

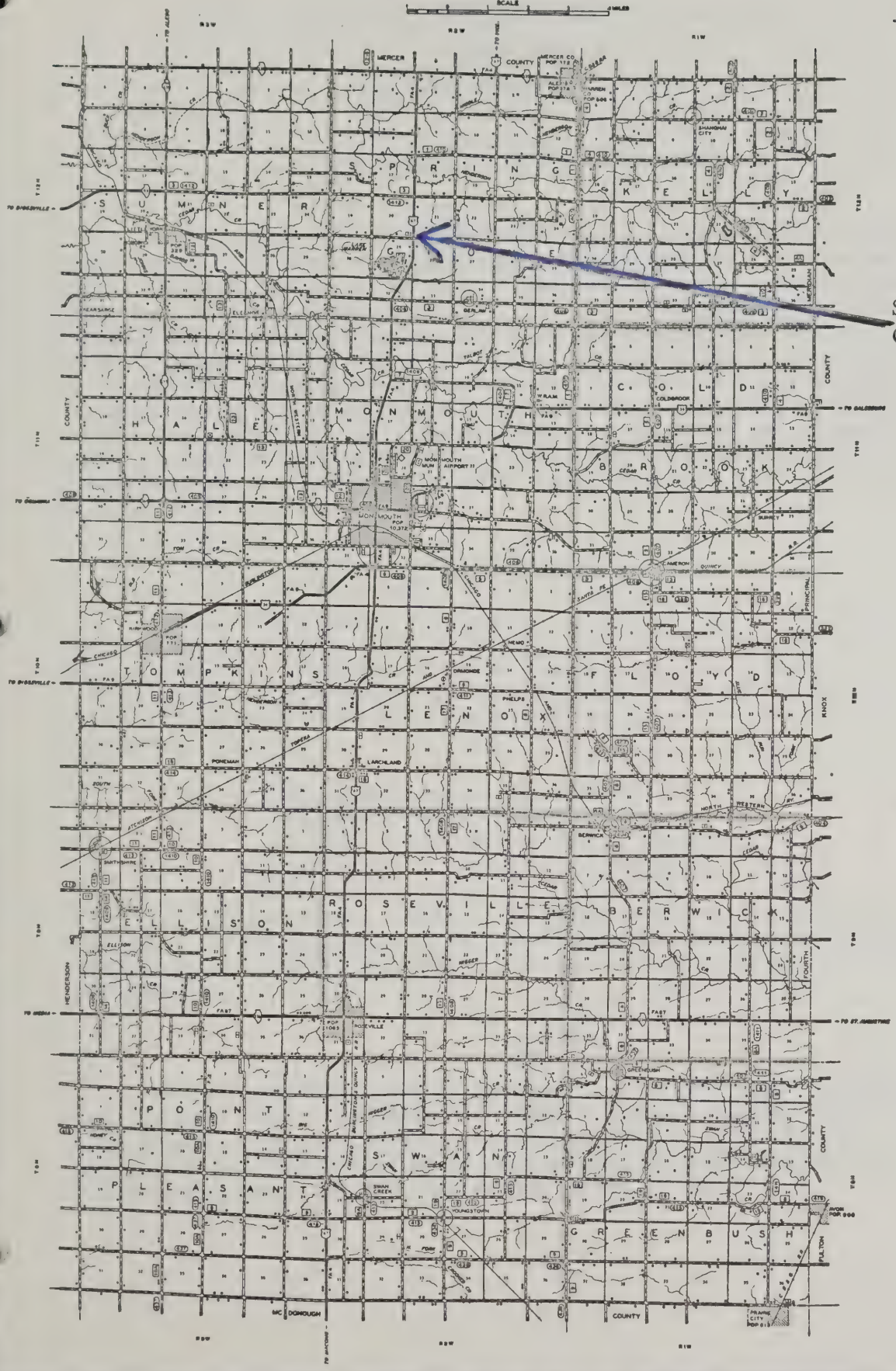
Management: The Biology Department at Monmouth College manages the prairie with periodic burns and cutting of brush. The college uses the cemetery regularly for class field study and research.

Nature preserve values: Spring Grove Cemetery is one of 27 out of 3923 cemeteries evaluated by the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory staff that had significant prairie vegetation in a natural condition. Although only 1 acre, it is a rare remnant of the black-soil prairies of the Galesburg Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP

WARREN COUNTY

ILLINOIS



SEE PAGE 65 FOR LEGEND

A PROPOSAL FOR DEDICATION OF PORTIONS OF THORN CREEK WOODS WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Approximately 500 acres out of 850 acres of land in Thorn Creek Woods, owned by the Department of Conservation, Will County Forest Preserve District, Village of Park Forest and Village of Park Forest South is recommended for dedication as an Illinois nature preserve. The proposed nature preserve includes upland, bottomland, and ravine forests, disturbed prairie, glacial potholes and ponds, about 1.4 miles of Thorn Creek and significant geologic features representative of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division of Illinois. The area includes a diversity of habitats, has an abundance of wildlife and harbors two species of rare plants. It is an excellent educational area and is used by nearby Governor's State University for teaching and research. An interagency management commission is being formed to manage the woods and a master plan is being prepared.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Thorn Creek Woods is a large area of wooded land encompassing about 800 acres in the headwaters of Thorn Creek. The land is owned or is being acquired by four agencies: Will County Forest Preserve District, Village of Park Forest, Village of Park Forest South, and the Illinois Department of Conservation. Approximately 500 acres of the woods is proposed for dedication divided among the various landowners as:

Will County Forest Preserve District-65 acres
Village of Park Forest-58 acres
Village of Park Forest South-132 acres
Department of Conservation-245 acres

A joint management committee is being formed to manage the area as one single unit and a master plan for use and development of the area is being prepared. The area being proposed for dedication has been reviewed and approved by this management committee.

LOCATION

Thorn Creek Woods lies in Sections 1,2, 11 and 12 of Township 34 North, Range 13 East of the 3rd Principal Meridian, Monee Township, Will County, Illinois. It is located south of the Will-Cook County line within the Village limits of Park Forest and Park Forest South, and bounded by Monee Road on the west, Western Avenue on the east, and Exchange Avenue on the south.

The towns of Park Forest, Chicago Heights, Homewood-Flossmoor and Harvey lie to the northeast; Steger, Crete and South Chicago Heights lie to the east; and Park Forest South adjoins the woods on the south. Governor's State University is located to the west of the woods. The woods is accessible via Interstate 57, Illinois Route 50, U.S. 30 or Illinois Route 1. Most of the land to the southwest of the woods is still open farmland which is undergoing a change from a rural to an urban character.

PHYSIOGRAPHY

General surroundings

Thorn Creek Woods lies at the headwaters of Thorn Creek and is the southernmost extension of a strip of forest that follows the creek north to its confluence with the Little Calumet River near Riverdale, Illinois. The woods is part of the rolling glacial topography of the Valparaiso Morainic System and has many of the features typical of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division of Illinois. Thorn Creek Woods lies on the edge of the Grand Prairie of Illinois. Fertile farmland stretches off to the south and west of the woods, with only a few interruptions of the open landscape by remnants of the original prairie groves and steamside forests. A few miles to the north of the woods Thorn Creek empties into the flat lake plain of Glacial Lake Chicago. Most of the area north of the woods is highly developed for residential and industrial uses. Much of the wooded land in the region is located along Thorn Creek, Deer Creek and their tributaries.

Topography

The woods occupies a broad north-facing slope of the Valparaiso Morainic System. Maximum elevation near the wood's southern border is 780 feet above sea level, declining to 690 feet above sea level at the point where Thorn Creek exits from the woods at the Will-Cook County line.

Thorn Creek marks the western and northern boundary of the woods. The headwater branches of the creek flow through narrow steep-sided ravines that have eroded into glacial drift creating a well-dissected landscape. North of Stuenkel Road, where two branches of Thorn Creek coalesce to form the main channel, the creek flows through a broad and level floodplain with relatively steep slopes. A broad, level, poorly-drained area of upland in the center of the woods contains a number of small potholes which retain water in spring, but usually dry out during the summer months. Owl Lake, the largest of these potholes holds water for most of the year. A large, well-defined ravine system has developed in the northeastern part of the woods along a small tributary. The level upland areas are drained by intermittent streams flowing through shallow, poorly-defined drainage ways.

Geology

Thorn Creek Woods is part of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division of Illinois. The area including Thorn Creek Woods is part of the Valparaiso Morainic System and is composed of glacial drift from the Woodfordian Substage of the Wisconsinan Stage of Pleistocene glaciation. The woods lies on the north slope of the Westmont Moraine, the trailing edge of which passes through the woods from northwest to southeast at about the 750 foot contour line. Northeast of the moraine border the drift is part of the Valparaiso ground moraine.

The till is all part of the Wadsworth Till Member and consists mostly of gray clayey till with an abundance of black shale pebbles and finely ground particles from the Mississippian and Devonian formations. The drift averages 100 feet thick and occurs in sheet-like deposits separated by beds of waterlaid sand, gravel or silt.

Soils

The undissected morainal uplands are mapped as Blount Silt Loam, a light-colored, imperfectly oxidized soil formed in silty clay loam till with a surficial covering of less than 2 feet of medium-textured drift and loess. It developed under hardwood forest on 2 to 3 percent slopes, is low in organic matter, medium to strongly acid, has a high waterholding capacity and low permeability.

Soils on slopes at the edges of the ravines, along the valley walls or on the downslope of the Westmont Moraine are mapped as Morley Silt Loam. This is a light-colored, moderately well to well-oxidized soil formed in silty clay loam till with less than 2 feet of surficial drift and loess. It developed under deciduous hardwood forest on 4 to 30 percent slopes, is low in organic matter, about medium acid, with low available nutrients, high waterholding capacity and low permeability. Erosion is a serious potential problem on the steeper slopes, when the natural cover is removed.

The broad, level floodplain of Thorn Creek and its larger tributaries are mapped as Lawson Silt Loam (formerly called Huntsville loam). This is a dark, moderately well-oxidized soil formed in medium-textured alluvial sediments 4 or more feet thick. It has high organic matter, is neutral in reaction, is variable in available nutrients, and is generally well drained.

VEGETATION

The vegetation of the proposed nature preserve in Thorn Creek Woods reflects the diversity of habitats found in the area and the impacts of man's usage of the land. The vegetation ranges from high quality natural forest to young, second-growth stands of timber and open fields. Almost all of the proposed nature preserve is forested with small openings which contain communities of sedges and other wetland plants scattered through the woods. A small area of disturbed prairie is located on the western edge of the woods.

Forest on the slopes of the ravines, along the edge of the stream valley and on well-drained sites in the floodplain of Thorn Creek are dominated by red oak. White oak is associated with the red oak on the upper ravine slopes, while sugar maple, black maple and basswood are associates on the lower slopes and ravine bottoms. Ironwood is a common tree in the understory of this community, along with a number of shrubs, such as maple-leaved viburnum, black haw, high bush cranberry and arrowwood. These mesic sites support a rich and diverse herbaceous flora which includes many of the spring wildflowers common to the Chicago region plus such notable species as Schreber's aster (Aster Schreberi), spotted coral-root orchid(Corallorhiza maculata) and yellow Trout-lily (Erythronium americanum). A seepage area in a tributary ravine supports skunk cabbage.

White oak is the most common tree on the level to slightly sloping uplands and undissected ridge tops. The distribution of white oak is closely associated with the distribution of the Blount soils and in places on the uplands it occurs in almost pure stands. Black oak, black cherry and shagbark hickory are the most frequent associates with the white oak in these situations and in some areas young red oaks are invading the white oak stands. Gray dogwood, arrowwood and prickley ash are common shrubs on the uplands. Bur oak is not a common tree in the woods and is restricted primarily to the edges in areas that apparently were former savannas.

Swamp white oak is found in almost pure stands around poorly drained depressions on the uplands and in low poorly-drained spots in the bottomlands. The distribution of swamp white oak probably indicates the location of former ponds or wet depressions that have been filled in through siltation and successional processes or have been drained as the ravines extend into the uplands. Where these depressions retain standing water during part of the year, buttonbush, cattails, bur-reed, sedges and other emergent aquatic species are found.

The rich soils in the bottomland along Thorn Creek and in broader ravine bottoms support a mixed forest of sugar maple, red oak, white oak, basswood, green ash, black walnut, slippery elm and occasionally bur oak. Red oak is the most important tree in the canopy, but it apparently is not reproducing. Sugar maple reaches its greatest importance in this habitat. Sugar maple and slippery elm are the most important species in the understory, indicating a gradual change to a forest dominated by sugar maple. Slippery elm, black walnut and basswood are restricted primarily to the richest forests in the bottomland and on the steep slopes.

A small area of wet prairie that grades into mesic prairie is located on the extreme western edge of the woods on a southfacing edge of a ravine. The prairie has been grazed until just recently by horses, but still contains many prairie species. Prairie cord grass dominates in the low, wet areas. Some forbs found in the prairie are wild hyacinth (Camassia scilloides), Turk's-cap-lily (Lilium michiganense), Culvert's root (Veronicastrum virginicum), swamp saxifrage (Saxifraga pennsylvanica), swamp thistle (Cirsium muticum), prairie dock (Silphium terebinthinaceum), wild quinine (Parthenium integrifolium), puccoon (Lithospermum canescens), sand violet (Viola fimriatula), goldenrods (Solidago spp.) and sunflowers (Helianthus spp.).

Small areas of formerly cleared land support dense stands of red oak, ironwood or hawthorn. Hawthorn is also common in the uplands where the forest

has suffered from heavy grazing in the past. Formerly cultivated land which has either been planted to pines or has been abandoned has, for the most part, been excluded from the boundaries of the proposed nature preserve.

FAUNA

The area is large and diverse enough to support a large number of animals. Over 50 species of birds have been observed that breed and nest in the woods, including two hawks (red-shouldered hawk and sparrow hawk), and two owls (great-horned owl and screech owl). In addition a large number of birds and waterfowl use the woods for resting and feeding during migration. The woods supports a small population of white-tailed deer and may also support red fox and other small predatory species. No study has been made of the small mammal, reptile or amphibian populations in the woods, but it can be expected that many different species can be found in the different habitats. The woods is part of a continuous band of forest that stretches along Thorn Creek into Cook County, providing a corridor for travel of larger animals over a large area.

HISTORY OF USE AND DISTURBANCE

Settlement of what was then known as "Thorn Grove" began about 1834 at the same time of the original survey. The first farms lay at the edge of the woods, and some wooded tracts on the southern and western borders were cleared for cropland, while other plots were used for pasture.

The earliest available plat of the area dates from 1873 (earlier records having been destroyed in a fire). At this time most of the woods interior was divided into 5 to 20 acre woodlots that were owned by settlers in the adjacent prairie. The boundaries of these woodlots remained relatively unchanged through the 1920's. The common practice during this period was to cut timber as needed (mostly for posts and firewood) and to pasture cattle in the woods during the summer months. A few tracts were cleared, although this practice was not widespread.

Examination of early aerial photographs of the area show that the upland forests had an irregular canopy with many openings, apparently as a result of grazing. The forests along Thorn Creek and its tributaries retained a closed canopy, although these areas were probably also grazed. Cutting of timber was practiced until the area was acquired by Mall Tool Company in the 1930's. Most of the woods has been protected from grazing and timber cutting since that time, although some small areas have been used for pasturing of horses.

After the woods was acquired by Mall Tool Company, a gravel trail from Western Avenue to Monee Road was constructed and plantings of red, white and jack pine and multi-flora rose were made in former clearings and fields. Several cottages were constructed along Western Avenue and in the 1950's the present Oak Hill Drive Subdivision was developed to the east of Stuenkel Road. Thorn Creek Estates Subdivision was constructed in the northern part of the woods during this same period.

In the 1960's much of the Mall Tool Company holdings, as well as a number of small parcels, were purchased by New Community Enterprises for development of the new town of Park Forest South. Efforts to protect the woods began in 1958 when Park Forest Village Trustees passed a resolution urging the Cook County Forest Preserve District and Will County Forest Preserve District to purchase about 250 acres of the woods. Other proposals for acquisition of Thorn Creek Woods were also made, but no action was taken to preserve the major part of the woods until a group of local citizens started a campaign to save the woods in response to the proposed New Town development. The group, called Thorn Creek Woods Preservation Association, joined forces with Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, Open Lands Project and other conservationists to work out a plan for saving the woods. The Nature Preserves Commission was asked by the General Assembly in 1971 to study the woods and published a report and recommendations for acquisition and preservation on April 15, 1971. Eventually agreement was reached to acquire about 850 acres of the woods by a coalition of public agencies. A 5-acre parcel in the center of the woods was donated to Will County. Most of the land within the proposed boundaries has now been acquired although several scattered parcels of land within the boundaries of the proposed nature preserve remain to be acquired.

NATURE PRESERVE VALUES

Thorn Creek Woods is a large and diverse area that includes examples of upland, ravine and bottomland forest, poorly-drained areas dominated by swamp white oak, glacial potholes, ponds, a small prairie remnant, springs and seepage areas and the aquatic environment of Thorn Creek itself. The diversity of habitats and large size of the area provides for an abundance of wildlife.

The forested ravine system west of Monee Road in the southwest part of the proposed nature preserve is a significant natural area that has been recognized by the Illinois Natural Area Inventory. The forest is relatively undisturbed and the variety of habitats make this site of special significance. Other areas on the steep ravine slopes in the northeast part of the proposed preserve and on slopes along the edge of the Thorn Creek valley represent natural conditions, with many large trees and an apparently undisturbed understory. These forests are significant remnants of the original natural forests of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division which are not represented in other nature preserves.

In 1834, the date of the original land survey, the boundaries of the woods were very similar to what they are today. By interpreting the survey notes it is apparent that the southern edge of the woods, which extended further south than the present boundary and probably connected with a wooded area along Deer Creek, was an open oak savanna. The true forest lay to the north of the present-day Exchange Avenue, approximately in the same position it is found today. The surveyor's notes described the forests on the level uplands east of the creek variously as "tolerably timbered with little undergrowth", "very well timbered with white oak, black oak and hickory and an understory of oak and hickory" and "nearly all white oak and that has been injured by fire; very little good rail timber". Witness trees identified by the surveyors while running a North-South line through the woods between Section 11 and 12 included while oak, black oak and

spanish (Hill's) oak as the principal species. The northern parts of the woods, described while running the North-South line between Sections 1 and 2 apparently had a similar composition but here the surveyor noted a rather more dense undergrowth composed of "white oak and bushes of various sorts". It can be concluded from the surveyor's notes that the uplands of Thorn Creek Woods were primarily an open forest or barren with white oak by far the most important species. The combination of heavy glacial soils on the moraine and recurrent ground fires that burned into the woods from the surrounding prairie probably accounted for the open character of the upland forest.

Although most of the upland forest in the proposed nature preserve has been disturbed in the past by timber cutting and grazing, it still retains a composition that is not unlike that described by the original land surveys. Grazing has undoubtedly altered the composition of the herbaceous species and shrub layer on the uplands, however, these are rapidly recovering from past disturbances. Red oak is invading the uplands indicating a slow shift from an almost pure dominance of white oak to a mixed white oak/ red oak forest. How rapidly or to what degree this change will occur is a matter of considerable interest and discussion among several ecologists who have studied the succession of the oak forests in the Chicago area. Protection of a large, relatively intact tract of this white oak forest on Blount Silt Loam Soils offers a great opportunity for continued research into successional trends on these soil types. Ecologists from Governor's State University have initiated a long-term study of the forest in Thorn Creek Woods.

The area provides an excellent educational resource, vividly showing the influence of topography and soils on community types and successional trends in forests of northeastern Illinois. Dramatic changes in forest types from red oak to white oak or white oak to swamp white oak can be observed throughout the woods. Geological processes are also vividly displayed where intermittent streams are cutting headward into the glacial till.

The proposed nature preserve harbors at least two plants that are rare in Illinois: spotted coralroot orchid (Corallorhiza maculata) and Schreber's Aster (Aster Schreberi). Spotted coralroot is a saprophytic plant of white oak/ black oak woodlands and is known from only a few counties in northern Illinois. It is near the southern edge of its range at this site in Will County. Schreber's Aster (formerly called Chase Aster) is a northern species that is known from only two areas of the State: in the Bloomington Moraine along the Illinois River valley near Peoria and this location in the Valparaiso Moraine in Thorn Creek Woods. Both populations may represent relicts of a formerly widespread flora that persisted for a short time after the glaciers retreated from Illinois. The species is known from eastern Wisconsin, and is difficult to distinguish from Aster macrophyllus which is more widespread in northeastern Illinois woodlands. The population of Aster Schreberi in Thorn Creek Woods may be within an unrecognized range of the species.

MANAGEMENT AND USE

Management of the woods is being undertaken by an intergovernmental commission made up of the Villages of Park Forest and Park Forest South, the Will County Forest Preserve District, Governor's State University and Thorn Creek Woods Preservation Association organized under the Illinois not-for-profit corporation act and authority contained in Section 10 of Article VII of the Illinois State Constitution (1970), to wit:

> "Units of local government and school districts may contract or otherwise associate among themselves, with the State, with other states and their units of local government and school districts, and with the United States to obtain or share services and to exercise, combine, or transfer any power or function, in any manner not prohibited by law or by ordinance. Units of local government and school districts may contract and otherwise associate with individuals, associations, and corporations in any manner not prohibited by law or by ordinance. Participating units of government may use their credit, revenues, and other resources to pay costs and to service debt related to intergovernmental activities..."

The Thorn Creek Woods Management Commission will have general responsibilities for all management of the woods, for development of facilities, and usage zones, rules and regulations and fiscal management and responsibility. The Illinois Department of Conservation, although a major landowner in the woods is not a member of the management commission, although it's lands will be managed by the Commission. A comprehensive master plan for the total holdings in Thorn Creek Woods is being prepared by the Division of Site Planning of the Department of Conservation, and will guide the use and development of the woods.

A nature center is located on land owned by the Village of Park Forest on the west edge of the woods off Monee Road. A double loop nature trail has been laid out from the nature center through the woods. The longer loop was installed during 1976 by YCC (Youth Conservation Corps) workers hired by the Village of Park Forest. The trail is one-way and is partially surfaced with bark chips. Narrow, planked bridges have been installed at two locations across Thorn Creek and across a small ravine. Part of the trail is located on existing dirt and gravel roads. An interpretive brochure has been developed for the short loop.

The woods is being developed primarily as a nature preserve and educational area with no provisions for camping or other active recreational pastimes. Eventually a new nature center may be developed on open land off of Western Avenue on the east edge of the woods. Governor's State University uses the woods to a limited extent for classes in ornithology and ecology. Although it has been mentioned in the past, the University has no plans at this time for development of a biological field station in the woods.

Some vegetational management will be needed to prevent the spread of pines, multi-flora rose and other exotic species into the nature preserve. Also, a limited burning program should be developed for management of the small prairie remnant on the western edge of the woods.

The northern part of the woods is accessible to motorcycles and other ORV's and there has been considerable problem in the past with trespass by vehicles and hunting. The municipalities are patrolling the woods and have significantly reduced the level of this activity. There is some problem with old dumps, especially around former residences. Most of these residences and dumps are being removed.

A tract of woodland lies to the south of the proposed nature preserve. This land was omitted from the boundaries of the woods after a lengthy battle between HUD, the developer, and the agencies interested in protecting the woods, because the developer had slated this tract of woods to be developed for estate-type homes. New Community Enterprises has since declared bankrupcy and HUD has taken over the assets of the Corp. and is looking for a new developer for the New Town. Negotiations with HUD may be re-opened over this disputed acreage. It would be a vital addition as buffer to the proposed nature preserve, it would protect two large ravine systems and it would add diversity to the woods.

Gerald A. Paulson
Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

Marlin Bowles
Department of Conservation,
Natural Areas Section

February 14, 1977

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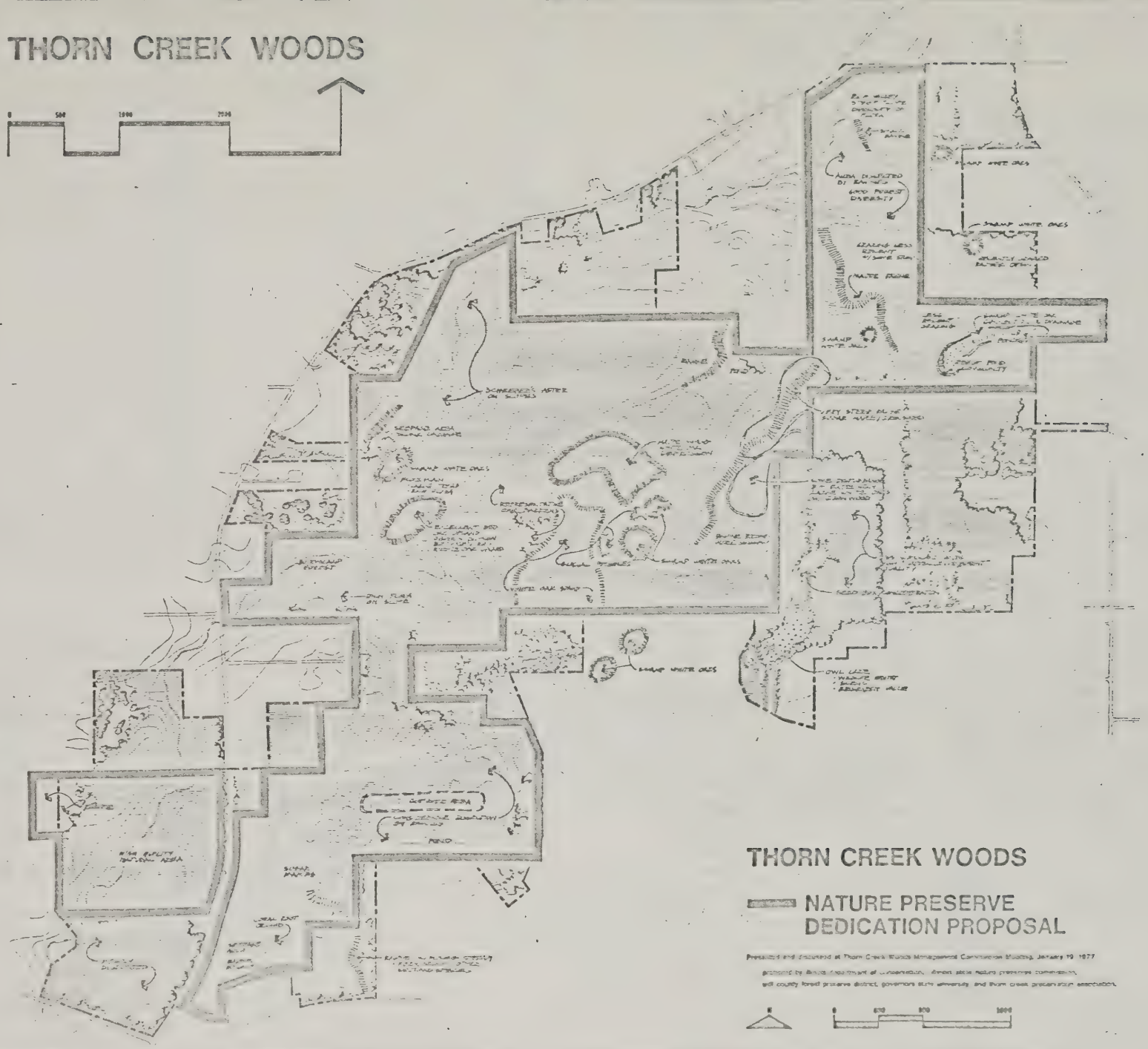
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THORN CREEK WOODS
THORN CREEK WOODS
NATURE PRESERVE
DEDICATION PROPOSAL

LOCATION MAP

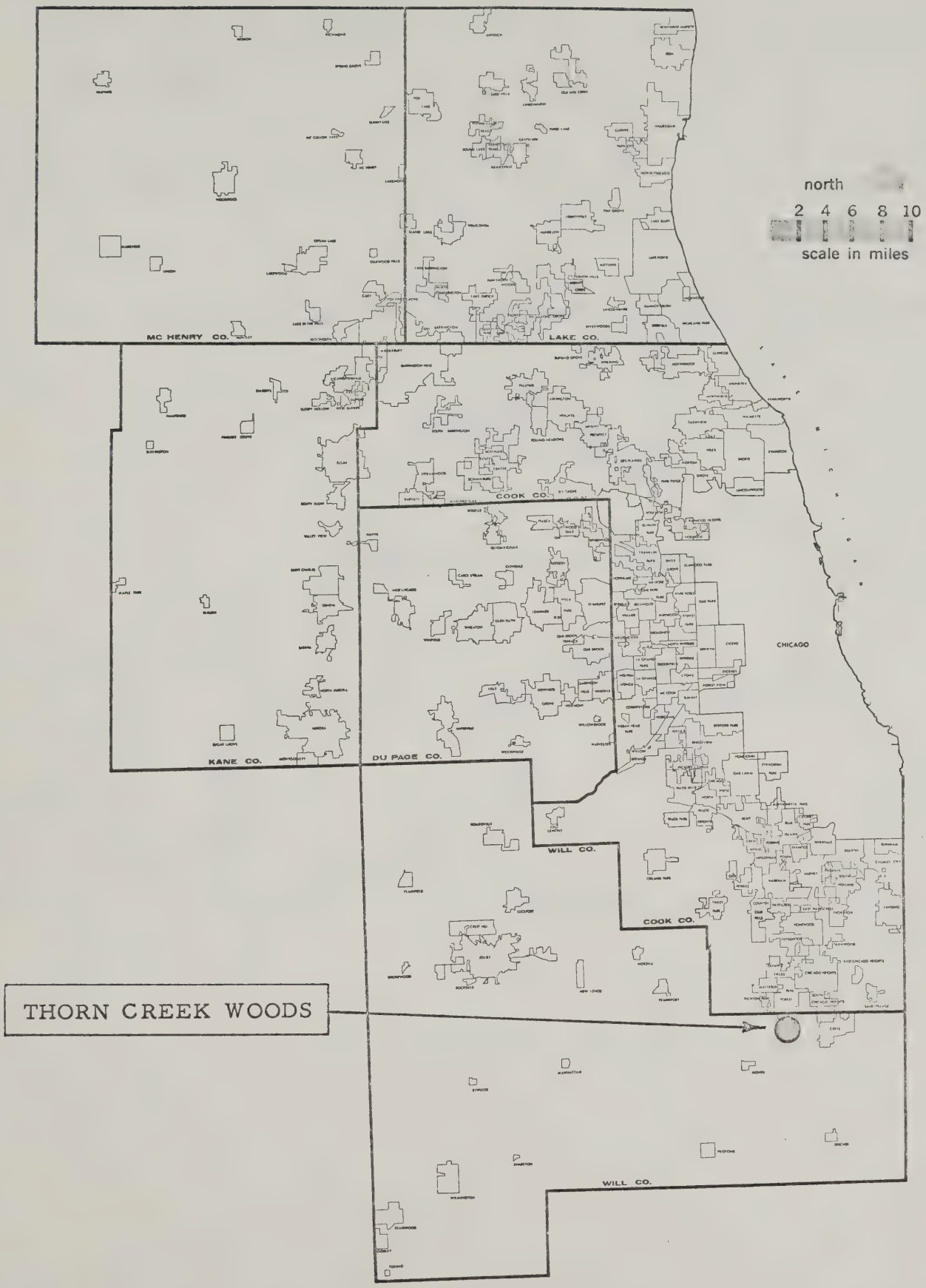


Exhibit A

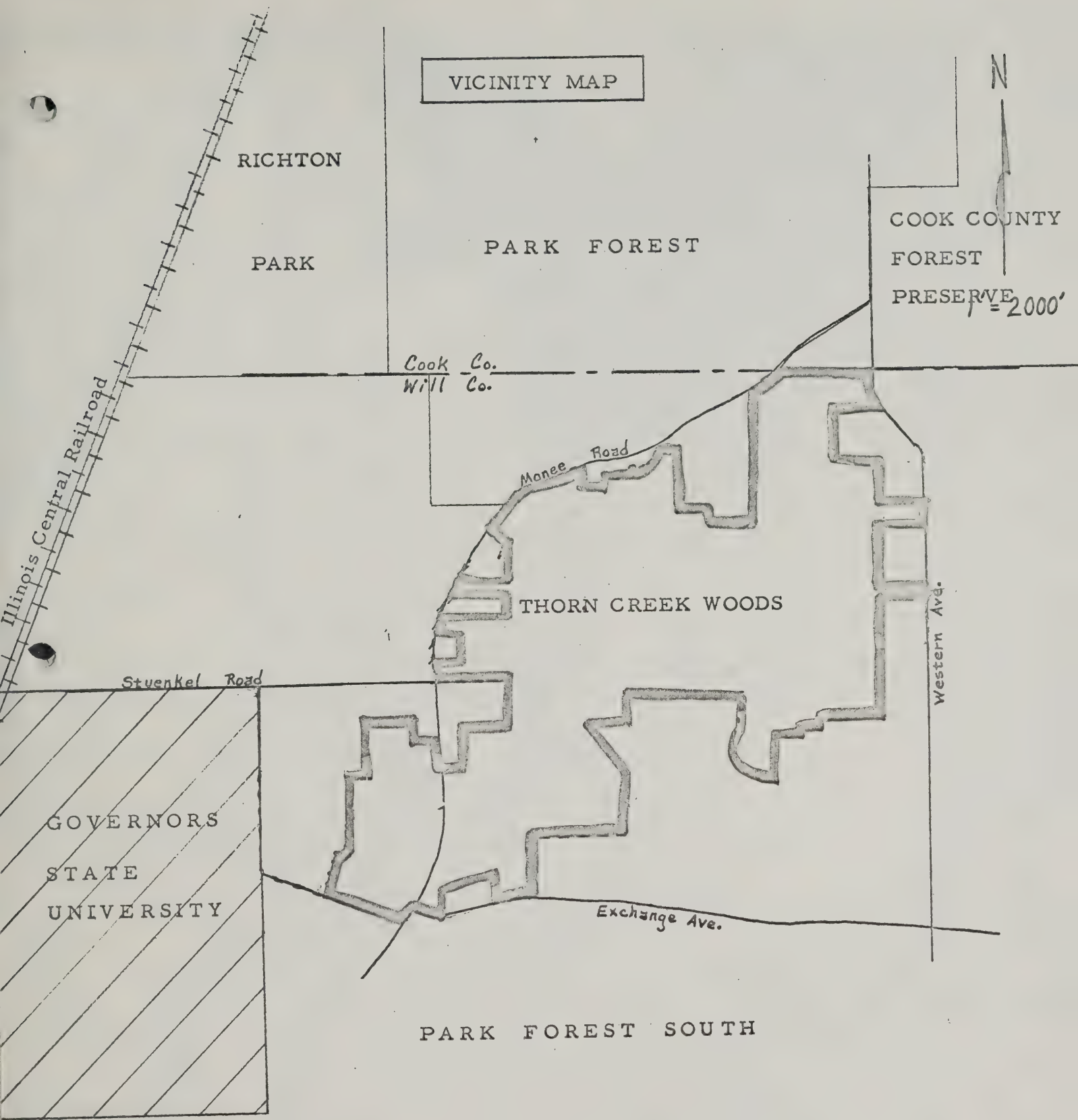
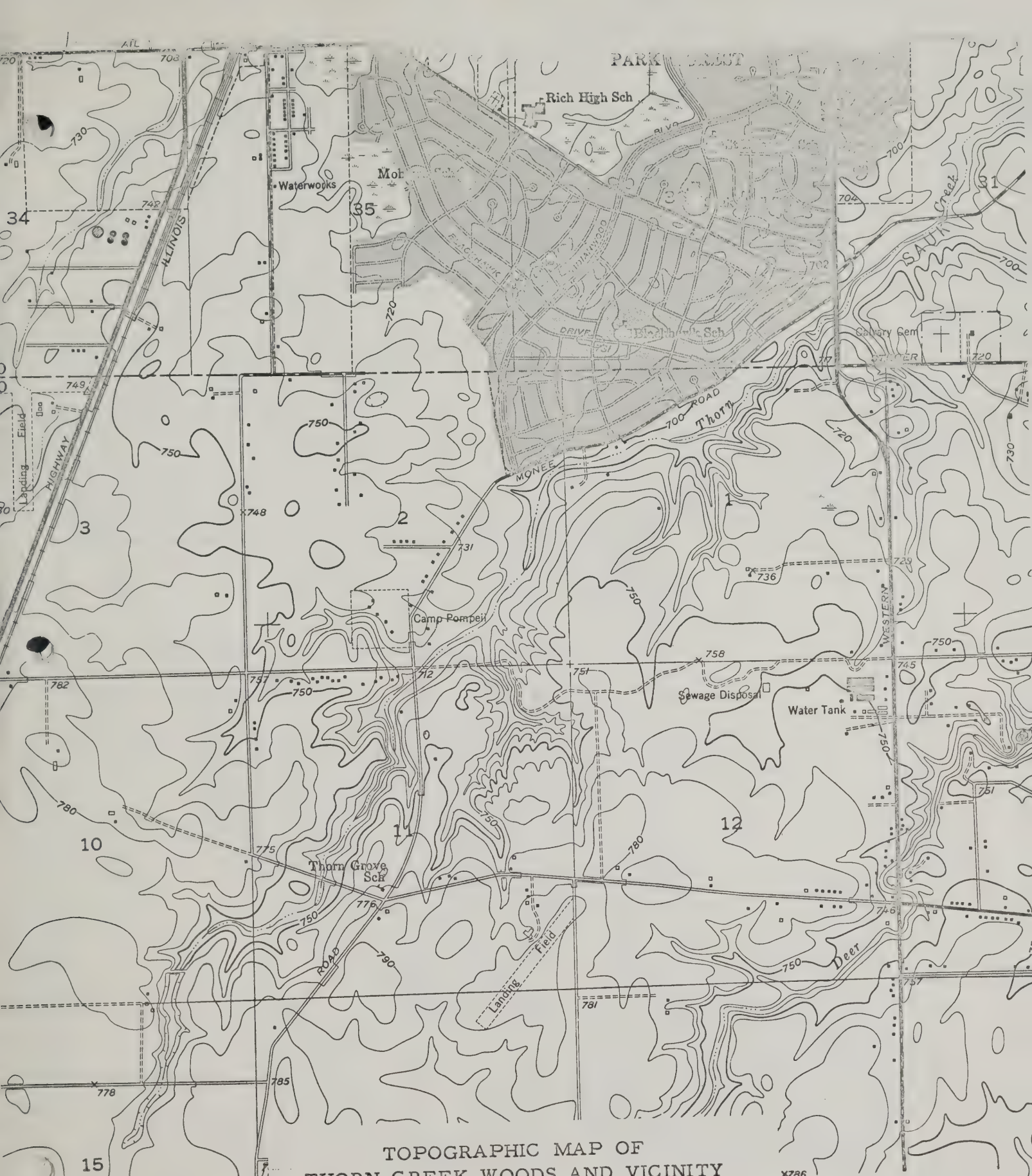

VICINITY MAP
N
1" = 2000'
RICHTON
PARK
PARK FOREST
COOK COUNTY
FOREST
PRESERVE
Cook Co.
Will Co.
Illinois Central Railroad
Monee Road
THORN CREEK WOODS
Western Ave.
Stuenkel Road
GOVERNORS
STATE
UNIVERSITY
Exchange Ave.
PARK FOREST SOUTH

Exhibit B



TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF
THORN CREEK WOODS AND VICINITY

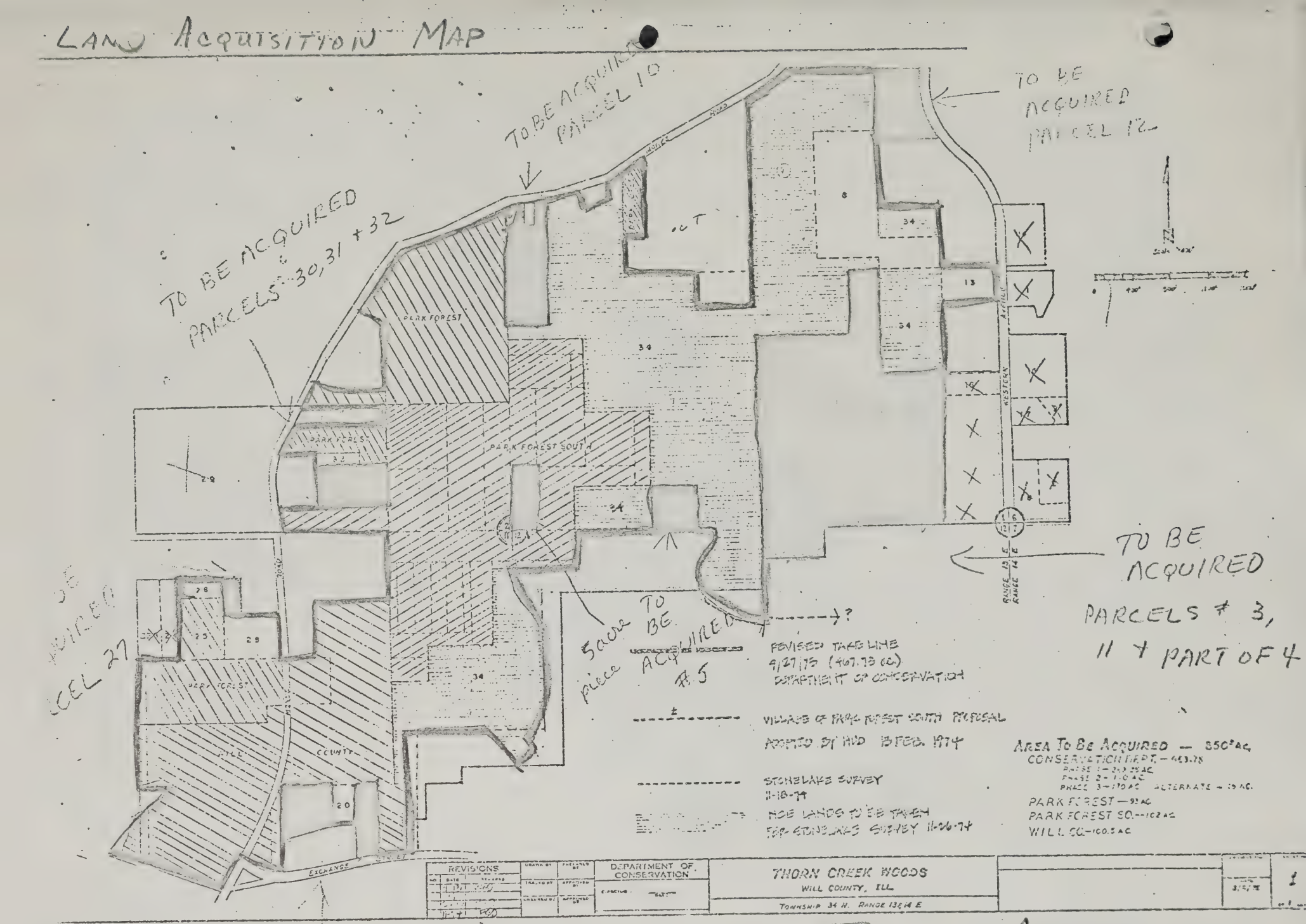
scale 1 in. = 2,000 ft.

contour interval 10 feet

USGS 1953

Exhibit D

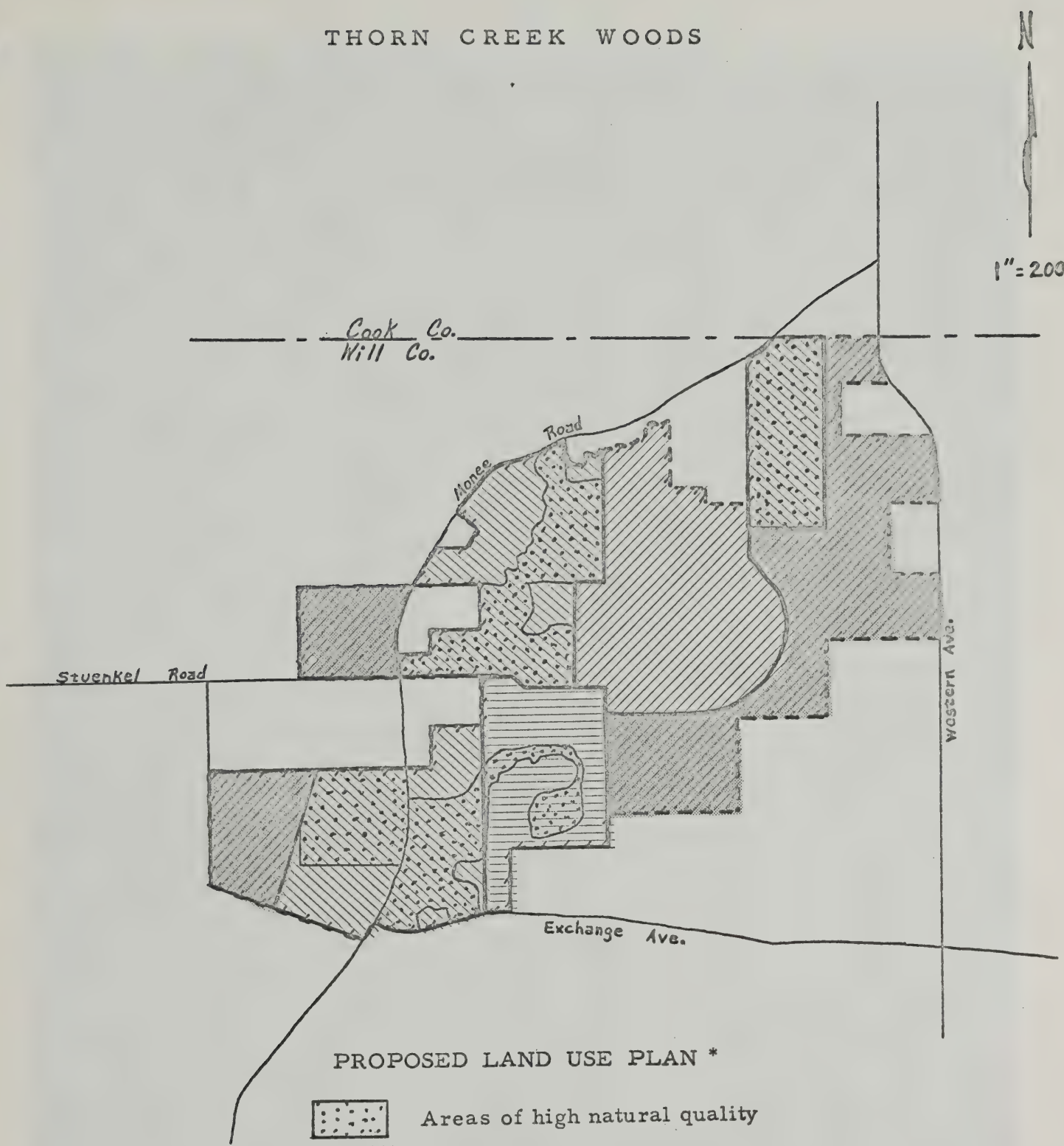
LAND ACQUISITION MAP



1/77

Mrzuki

THORN CREEK WOODS



PROPOSED LAND USE PLAN *

- Areas of high natural quality
- Nature preserve
- Biological field station
- Light recreation area
- Intensive recreation area

* As proposed in INPC "Report on Thorn Creek Woods", April 15, 1971

G

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH
OF
THORN CREEK WOODS AND VICINITY

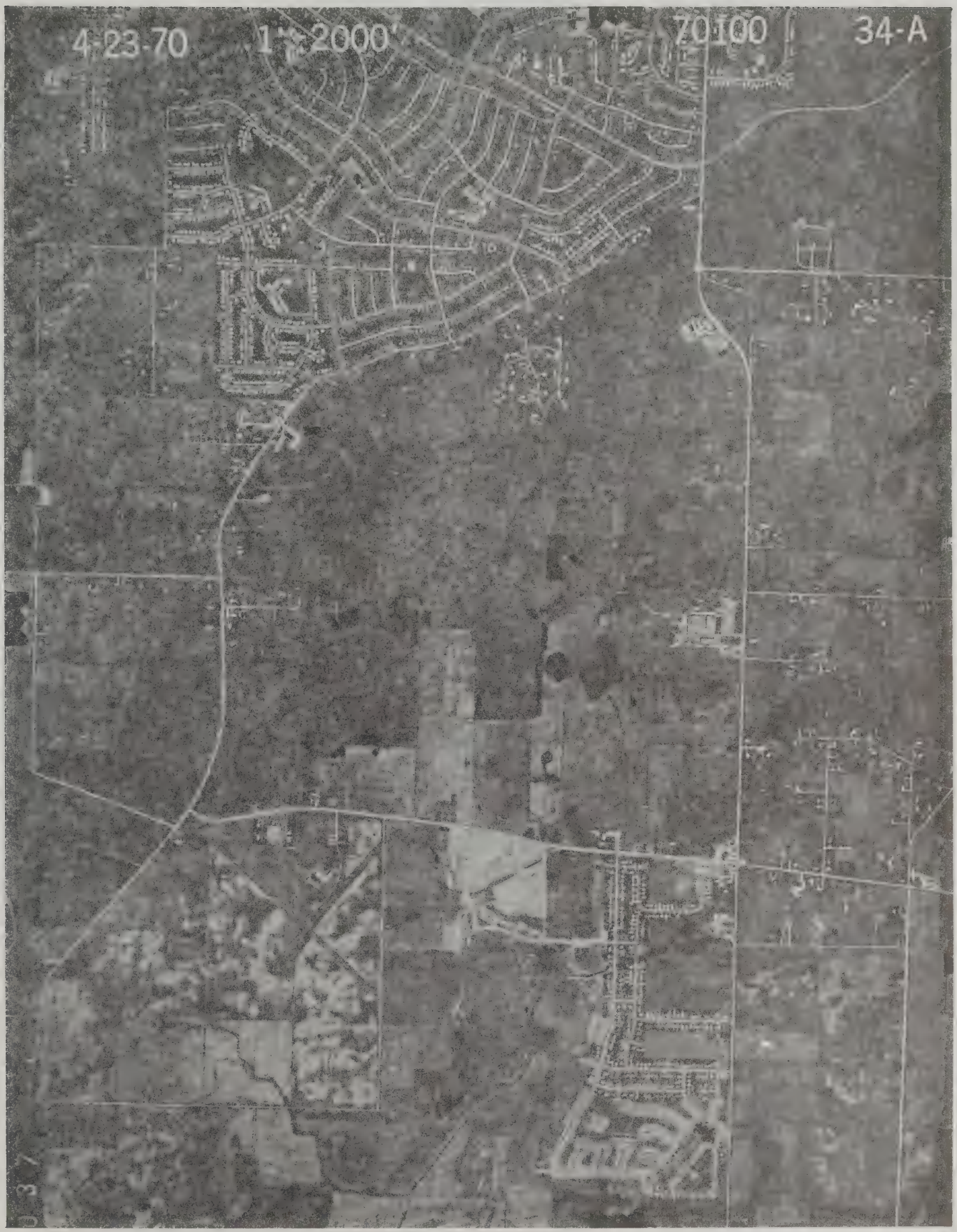


Exhibit C

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
424 N. SPRINGFIELD AVE. • AREA CODE 815 965-9431
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61103

EUGENE T. WIELAND
SUPERINTENDENT

J. M. CAVANAGH, P.E.
ASSISTANT

January 20, 1977

SUBJECT:

Mr. George Fell,
819 North Main Street,
Rockford, Illinois 61103.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a drawing showing the general location of the three potential alignments of the Windsor Road extension that were discussed at our earlier meeting. We have done some rough calculations as to their costs which I will detail for you.

Centerline #1 would place the new road in the existing 33 feet of right-of-way. This would require realignment of existing Windsor Road at an approximate cost of $106,000. The new construction of Windsor Road from Forest Hills Road to the east end of Renn Hart Hills Subdivision will cost approximately $47,000. It is assumed that no additional right-of-way is required but some additional would be desirable.

Centerline #2 would require no additional work on existing Windsor Road. The cost of the new construction of Windsor Road is approximately $48,000. About 0.3 acres of additional right-of-way would be needed.

Centerline #3 would require the realignment of existing Windsor Road at an approximate cost of $87,000. The cost of the new road from Forest Hills Road to the east line of Renn Hart Hills Subdivision on Harlem Crest Road is approximately $63,000. About 2.4 acres of new right-of-way is needed as shown by the shaded area on the attached drawing. It is very possible that it would be necessary to buy the house and additional land in lot 14 but this could not be determined until a detailed survey was made.

In summary, the cost of #1 is $152,000; #2 is $48,000; #3 is $150,000. These numbers do not include any right-of-way costs.

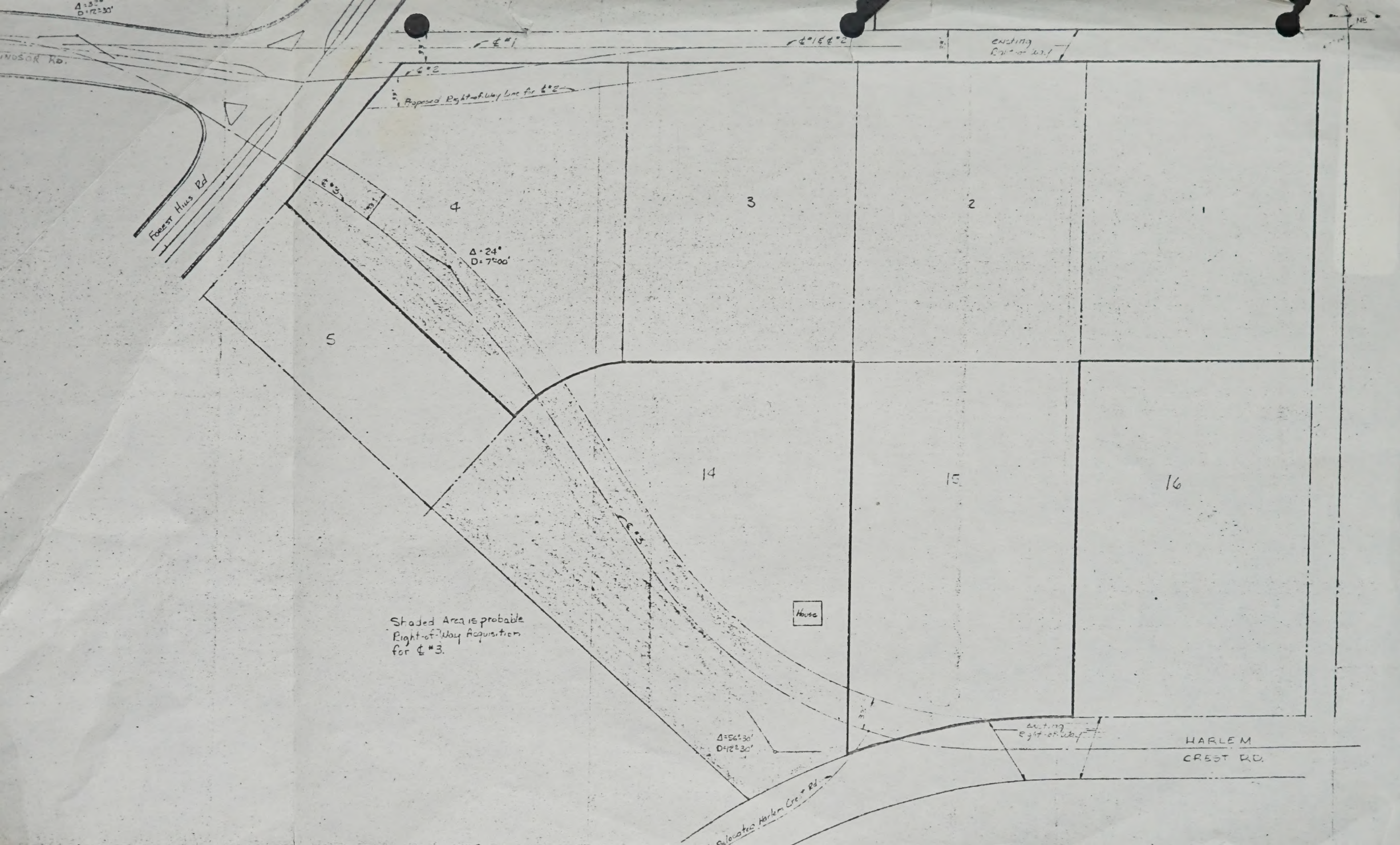
If additional information is desired, please advise. We should have another meeting to further discuss this problem.

Yours very truly,

Eugene T. Wieland

Eugene T. Wieland
County Supt. of Highways

JMC:rc
enc.
cc: Willard C. Johnson


Δ=3°
D=12°30'
INDSOR RD.
Forest Hills Rd
℄ "1
℄ "1 & ℄ "2
existing
Right-of-Way
℄ "2
Proposed Right-of-Way Line for ℄ "2
℄ "3
30'
4
3
2
1
Δ=24°
D=7°00'
5
14
15
16
House
Shaded Area is probable
Right-of-Way Acquisition
for ℄ "3.
℄ "3
Δ=56°30'
D=12°30'
existing
Right-of-Way
HARLEM
CREST RD.
Relocated Harlem Crest Rd.
NE

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